





## Research to discover what a baby can see

Although Mr Ray Buckton, their general secretary, made it clear that there would have to be discussions to settle some details.

The tribunal's recommendation increases drivers' basic weekly pay from £35.50 to £45.83. The basic rate for guards goes up from £26.90 to £32.40.

The largest railway trade union, the National Union of Railwaymen, has accepted the findings as a starting point, but is unhappy about the heavy weighting in favour of drivers. Yesterday's decision, issued by the Transport and Staffs' Association (TSA), made a similar decision, but will press for higher increases for clerks and supervisors.

Mr Tom Jenkins, assistant general secretary of the TSA, urged the union would also claim for London allowances, improved working conditions and the consolidation of threshold payments into basic rates. It will join other unions in asking British Rail to increase the pay of other grades not covered by the tribunal findings.

Strikes extended: The Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) is to extend its campaign of selective strikes by the Health Service auditors in support of a claim for immediate pay increases of up to 35 per cent.

The union's executive, meet-

ing in London on Saturday, gave authority to a 16-member campaign committee to extend the action. The committee is to meet on Wednesday and next weekend. New areas likely to be affected include Liverpool and Lancashire.

Hospitals in London, Glasgow, Manchester and South Wales have been affected. The worst disrupted area is Leeds, where 45 hospitals are without routine X-ray services. In each case the strikers are maintaining emergency cover.

Mr Reg Bird, national officer of the association, said that by the end of the week 30 hospital groups could be struck. "In the worst case, so many number of hospitals will be closed or on the point of closing", he said. This assertion was disputed by the Department of Health and Social Security.

The association claims to represent about 3,000 of the 7,000 health service radiographers. The Society of Radiographers and other trade unions have agreed to wait until Sepbury's committee, investigating pay in the health service, has said it will announce an interim wage award.

The association hopes to force Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, to make pay offer before that date and has said it will not give evidence to the Halsbury inquiry.

Researchers at Lancaster University hope to discover much more about what a baby sees and understands. The Medical Research Council has just provided them with a £4,000 grant to investigate early visual development.

Dr Paul Harris, a lecturer in the department of psychology at the university, is leading the research over the next two years. "When a baby is newly born, we know very little about the difference between light and dark", he said. "By four months he recognizes his mother's face but very little is known about his visual development between these two milestones.

"It is reasonable to assume that complicated pictures, such as faces, are actually perceived as a composition of various simple elements such as edges and angles." Since new born babies spend most of the day asleep, Harris and his team will have to make the most of feeding times. They have discovered that a baby is at his most alert just before meals.

Dr Harris will make most of his observations from maternity hospitals and day care centres. For tests the baby is shown a variety of pictures. The amount of time he looks at each is measured by watching the eye movements.

Harris said that even from birth the baby showed certain preferences.

"He will spend more time



**Flying Officer Suzanne**



Lane leading men of the

In retirement, using top soldiers instead of real ones.

On the morrow, five miles south of Belfast, were thousands of Sinn Féin soldiers pouring nearly violently to march to Londonderry, carrying their banners of blue, green and gold. A few hundred yards away, on a hill in Malone forest, was a crowd of angry Protestants banging amid the leaves and trunks of great trees. Stumbling on the hill like old-time infantry in a battle, they were wading through the long grass with red hackles bobbing at their berets, came a party of Scots soldiers, trying to drive back the Protestants.

Every so often a lone or a head of wood came flying from the trees to shatter on the road and the Roman Catholics would reply with a shower of stones. The soldiers kept running up the hill, but the four or five men, climbing the country fence, and one slipped at the top and plunged head first into a bush on the other side: the only light moment of an afternoon so secret and dark, in which could have proved very ugly.

Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA, had chosen yesterday for its march to the Maze prison on the long road to the third anniversary of internment without trial, a ritual affair which is usually held in a suburban street in west Belfast. On this occasion, however, possibly because only one third of the usual number turned up at the annual demon-

town, and the motorway at the Protestant dormitory town of Dunmurry. Unable to believe their eyes or their ears when they saw the marchers, who were singing "We shall overcome", the inhabitants nearest the road left their homes and stood jeering along the verge. Some threw stones and pebbles, begged and bawled, and the middle-class gardens and the bungalows with their curtained windows.

Troops were deployed along the lagoons of an evil-smelling sewage farm and others were dispatched to the forest. Protesters who had gathered in the wood on the opposite side of the road.

There was a 10-minute break while six Sinn Féin delegates walked to the massive army and police barrier on the motorway and demanded a formal permission to go farther. The demonstrators sat on the road for five minutes to listen to speeches while the soldiers stood on the motorway bridge and in the forest and in the sewage farm.

The marchers went back and stones were hurled from the forest again as a thin line of Scots soldiers ran parallel with the marchers to head off the Protestants.

By the evening only one man had been arrested. If it was set-piece battle, it was scarcely a famous victory for anyone. The "Protestants" yesterday divers were trying to find the

[illegible]

## Kidney donor posters to be displayed in chemist shops

doctors, urging some donors to donate their kidneys after death will be displayed in 12,000 chemist shops next month. The shops will also provide cards stating that the bearer is willing, after his death, to have his kidneys transplanted.

The Department of Health is providing the posters, in an attempt to reduce the 7,000 deaths from kidney disease each year.

Because of the shortage of available kidneys, only about 400 transplants are performed each year, but more than half the sufferers who die could lead normal lives after a transplant.

Mrs Elizabeth Ward, a housewife at Bordon, Hampshire, who

Kidney transplants cost a tenth of the annual cost of putting a patient on a dialysis machine to purify the blood, and transplants give a more normal life.

Mrs Ward's son Timothy, 37, who had a second kidney transplant, She said British Rail would soon be displaying the posters on notice boards in the Lancashire area.

The posters say: "Harry Morgan left an insurance policy which will help towards his son, and something very special to two total strangers—his kidneys."

## Shock from electric cable

A Glasgow boy aged eight escaped yesterday with minor burns when a length of wire flex touched a 25,000 volt electric cable over Cathcart Circle, Glasgow's suburban electric line.

Police said Patrick McGarry, of St Andrew's Road, Glasgow, was one of two boys sitting on a length of power over the line near Muirhouse Junction in Maxwell Road when a length of flex touched power cables over the lines below. He was thrown off the parapet on to the ground.

He was later detained in hospital for observation and treatment for minor burns and injuries to the body and legs.

Led at a discreet distance by six battered grey police Land Rovers, the thousand Catholic headed south, cursing the Royal Ulster Constabulary in front and glaring at the hundreds of soldiers who looked down at them from the motorways.

**From a Staff Reporter  
Glasgow**

The Scottish executive of the Labour Party is expected to be determined to oppose all government proposals on Scottish devolution. The executive has released the arguments submitted to the Government seven weeks ago when by one vote it rejected the proposed choices on evolution. The decision has put the Scottish leadership in direct conflict with the party's national executive.

A conference in Glasgow next weekend will consider five options for the Scottish Labour elect Scottish Assembly. It is clear the option preferred by the Scottish leaders is that which firmly rejects an assembly. "Although... the original vote was six to five... the subsequent meetings of the Scottish executive which could constitutionally have overturned the decision voted to do so."

The executive considered that a separate assembly would be unnecessary, undesirable and would not be in the interests of the Scottish people. The members recognized that Scottish nationalism was making an impact, but they believed Scottish difficulties could be overcome by continued unity, particularly of North Sea oil. They did not feel the country needed independent taxation powers or a change in the economic and social basis of Scotland.

Mr James Sillars, MP for Ayrshire, said that strong support for devolution, said yesterday. "If the anti-assembly lobby argues that the Labour Party in Scotland knows better than the

national executive on matters affecting Scotland, it does not take too much mental agility to accept that the Scottish Assembly will also know better on matters concerning Scotland than a body at Westminster."

Mr. James Macdonald, of the Scottish Transport and General Workers' Union, will be helped in their opposition to the Scottish executive if a card vote is called. That should bring in the Scottish Transport and General Workers' Assembly which is shown among the unions and within the Scottish Trades Union Congress.

Our Political Staff writes: "Everything will depend, in practice, though not in theory, on the decision made at the Scottish conference. According to the constitution of the British Labour Party, the supreme policy-making body is the annual conference. When it is not in session, power is exercised by the national executive committee."

Even if the Scottish conference were to reject a separate assembly for Scotland, it would still be open to the national executive committee to discuss and propose one. Its decisions would take precedence over those of the party in Scotland.

In practice the national executive would be most reluctant to overrule the Scottish party on a question of principle. The national executive in London to enforce its will over the Labour Party in Scotland in the name of devolution would be bizarre to say the least.

Whatever the decision of next year's conference, the final decision on the party's manifesto will rest with the Cabinet and the national executive.

brides. They were not to be allowed to reach Long Kesh, for at a little concrete bridge at the river Lagan the authorities had placed armed policemen, coils of barbed wire, armoured vehicles and coils of barbed wire to discourage even the thought of crossing.

## Marchers refused to flag respite

Continued from page 1

Police issued a final warning at the edge of the park and then closed in, first pulling away the protesting flag bearer, despite a group of marchers who hung on to the flag.

As the marchers went into the park, a considerable number of demonstrators resisted vigorously before the bearers were dragged away to police coaches.

After a few minutes the scuffling ended. No injuries were reported.

The marchers stood screaming slogans such as "Black and Tans" and "Up the Provos" at the police, and refused to move off without the flag. It was returned after a few minutes, and about 20 minutes, and about six hundred people marched down Park Lane and Piccadilly to Trafalgar Square.

A demonstration had been expected outside Downing Street, which was barricaded with railings and guarded by police officers, both mounted and on foot, but the march went straight past to its dispersal point at Waterloo.

The Red Hand was proscribed by the British Government early last year but the movement on yesterday, that Protestants should try to put aside the differences and work towards new Ulster that "legislates as provides for all her people."

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One of the organizers, Derek Halstead, an official of the Provisional Sinn Féin, said they would fight the cases of arrested people. He complained that one of those taken was a woman aged 73. Earlier he had criticized over a hailer what he called "fascist British police."

Organizations involved in the march included the Irish Public Hostages Campaign, the Troops Out movement, a Irish Republican Party, People's Democracy, and the International Socialists.

On July 29 eight IRA supporters were convicted at the District Magistrate's Court, illegally wearing a uniform while marching beside the car of Michael Gaughan, who died after a hunger strike.

The court had decided if the men's apparel, which included black berets, sunglasses and dark roll-top sweaters, constituted a uniform under the Public Order Act 1936, signified association with a political organization or the promotion of a political objective.

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police issued a final warning at the edge of the park and the crowd closed in, first pulling away the protesting flag bearer, despite a group of marchers who hung on to the flag.

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Close 2 exp. 25/10/73.

## Weather forecast and record

Mr Marcus Lipton, Labour MP for Lambeth, Central, protested yesterday after hearing that British Airways is to provide 1,500 stewardesses in its overseas division with Hardy Amies uniforms costing £200 each.


He said: "You can get a bridal outfit for less than that." He has complained to Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade: "This would be grossly extravagant even if British Airways were not in the red."

Mr Lipton said it was a bad example at a time when economy was supposed to be the order of the day and when 99 per cent of women in this country cannot afford to spend £200 on a costume."

British Airways said that the uniforms cost "a little under £200", but denied that that was grossly extravagant.

"We asked designers to submit designs to us and this one came up as suitable and hard-wearing", an official said. "It is a high quality uniform and if we bought one lower, it would quickly fall to pieces under the

**Today**

 Sun rises : 5.41 am Sun sets : 8.30 pm  
 Moon sets : 4.9 pm Moon rises : 12.17 am tomorrow

**New moon : August 17.**

**Lighting up : 9 pm to 5.12 am.**

**High water : London Bridge, 8.13 pm (10.8 ft), Avonmouth, 1.13 am (19.5 ft), 10.10 pm (24.1 ft), 1.48 am (10.3 ft), 12.8 ft (12.8 ft), Dover, 5.39 am (5.4 ft), 11.5 ft (11.5 ft), 6.14 pm, 5.56 am (18 ft), H.W., 12.26 pm, 5.96 am (19.2 ft), 12.81 pm, 5.96 am (19.1 ft), Lutter**

Rain at times, becoming brighter and mainly dry: wind SW, fresh; max temp 19°C (66°F).

NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Argyll: Rain at times, becoming brighter; wind SW, fresh, perhaps strong; max temp 17°C (63°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, E Scotland, Aberdonshire, Moray Firth: Rain at times, brighter spells; wind SW, fresh, perhaps strong; max temp 17°C (63°F).

Cardiff, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rain at times; wind SE moderate, increasing fresh; max temp 11°C (53°F).

**Saturday**

London : Temp : max 7 am  
pm. 19°C (66°F); min 7 pm.  
7 am. 12°C (54°F). Humid,  
82 per cent. Rain, 24hrs to  
.21in. Sun, 24hrs to 7 pm,  
Bar. mean sea level, 7 pm,  
millibars, rising.

**Yesterday**

London : Temp : max 7 am  
pm, 21°C (70°F); min 7  
am, 12°C (54°F). Humid,  
46 per cent. Rain, 24hrs to  
.4in. Sun, 24hrs to 7 pm,  
Bar. mean sea level, 7 pm,  
millibars, rising.

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Thoughts of low pressure are expected to move E across the British Isles.

**Forecast for 6 am to midnight:**

fresh: max temp 18°C (64°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Sunny intervals with showers in N. Elsewhere mainly dry with sunny periods but rain in W.

Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex South-East, said yesterday he was seeking an interview with Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, to discuss industrial hazards after complaints about oil refinery smells by residents of Canvey Island.

Mrs Dorothy Shaw, chairman of the local district council's health committee, said yesterday that there had been atmospheric pollution and that her constituents had raised some of the odours to refineries at Coryton, Essex.

London, SE, E. central N. England, E. Midlands, East Anglia  
 Occasional rain; brighter spells  
 S. W. Midlands, E. Midlands, E. Anglia  
 fresh, max temp 19° (16° F)  
 Central S, SW England, W. Midlands, Channel Islands, Wales

**WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY**  
 rain; sun; th. thunder.

Albany	F	16	61	Chicago	F	15	59
Amsterdam	F	16	61	Edinburgh	F	17	63
Athens	F	20	68	Geneva	F	17	63
Bombay	F	29	84	London	F	17	63
Buenos Aires	F	29	84	Manchester	F	17	63
Cairo	F	29	84	Paris	F	17	63
Canton	F	19	66	Peking	F	17	63
Cebu	F	19	66	Rangoon	F	17	63
Hankow	F	19	66	Shanghai	F	17	63
Hong Kong	F	19	66	Singapore	F	17	63
Kobe	F	19	66	Tientsin	F	17	63
Lyons	F	17	63	Yokohama	F	17	63
Manila	F	17	63				
Medan	F	17	63				
Penang	F	17	63				
Puerto Rico	F	17	63				
Rangoon	F	17	63				
Shanghai	F	17	63				
Singapore	F	17	63				
Tientsin	F	17	63				
Yokohama	F	17	63				

W. Water.	Temp near normal.		
S. Sea.	5 North Sea. S. Stra.		
W. Dover.	English Channel.		
Wind S.	fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.		
W. St. George's Channel.	Irish Sea.		
Wind W.N.	veering W. fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.		
W. Bay.	MIDDAY: c. cloud, f. fair, c.		

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HOME NEWS

# Free meals 'unlawfully denied to children'

Many poor children were possibly being deprived unlawfully of free school meals, the Child Poverty Action Group said yesterday. Many local education authorities were failing to make clear on forms which parents have to fill in for free meals that the assessment was based on net, not gross income. Parents were sending in misleadingly high estimates of their net income.

At least 38 local education authorities in Tyneside and Scotland were failing to ask the right questions on the form, the group said. If authorities in other parts of the country were failing similarly "it could mean that thousands of children are being denied free school meals which are their legal entitlement".

The group has asked Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education and Science, to issue immediately a circular to all authorities drawing attention to their statutory duties in the assessment for free meals. Where past rejection had been unlawful, families should be reimbursed.

It cites the case of Aberdeen education authority where the application form has been revised because it was based on gross income, and no questions were asked about tax, national insurance, mortgage payments or other expenses. A review is to be made of all last year's rejected applications, the group said.

North and South Tyneside, two of the authorities named in the group's report, have since acted to revise their free meals application forms.

Mr John Partington, director of education in North Tyneside, said the authority had minor defects in its original form, all of which had been amended. The new form would be available at the beginning of next term.

A spokesman for South Tyneside said its supply of existing forms had run out and the new forms would be revised, to take into account the points raised by the group.

The Inner London Education Authority issued a leaflet in 1972 to all parents of school children, and since then to parents of every new entrant. It gives exact instructions on how to apply for free school meals and points out that eligibility is calculated on net income, after deductions for things such as tax, travelling expenses, national insurance and rent.

It also points out that there is automatic entitlement for families on supplementary benefits and certain incomes, such as the first £2 of the mother's income, or a disability allowance, are not taken into account.

# Decision on Drumbue oil rig project expected today

From Our Correspondent Skye

The Scottish Office is expected to announce its decision on the controversial Drumbue oil rig project today. It will coincide with the long-awaited government policy statement on on-shore sites for oil-related developments.

At the same time as Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, is addressing a news conference in London on the Government's role in choosing suitable locations and likely incentives for construction companies, Mr Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, is expected to give his decision on the John Mowlem/Taylor Woodrow application for a concrete platform yard at Drumbue, Loch Carron, West Ross-shire.

During the lengthy public inquiry into the project when 380 objectors, including the National Trust for Scotland, gave evidence, the companies in partnership stated that the deep water facilities of Loch Carron and the Inner Sound of Raasay could not be found elsewhere in British coastal waters. But since last November, when the inquiry began, other contractors have

'Graffiti squads' tidy up in a community where the only writing on the wall spells comfort

# Keeping new town clean and prosperous

The new town of East Kilbride keeps itself smart with discreet help from a "graffiti squad". On public walls and in concrete canopies where young couples have declared their love in large blue letters or where Celtic supporters laud their team in phosphorescent pink, the squad sets to work early each day with chemicals and scrubbing brushes to erase the scribbles of the night before.

Police direct them to their targets. During the night or the weekend their patrols note what has been written and we go and rub it out," one worker explained. The squad has a van filled with solvents and chemicals.

Some towns ignore graffiti in public places in the hope that they will wear away, others apparently accept rainbow ramblings as a kind of art form, but East Kilbride maintains the blankness about its walls which the town's architects intended.

It is a proud and an ambitious place, the oldest of the Scottish new towns. If one discounts the neo-Georgian development on the north side of Edinburgh, which was coined.

East Kilbride relishes its achievements, since the earth movers began to transform one of Scotland's oldest villages into the first of the satellite towns to house surplus population from Glasgow.

Only one new town has built more houses, more than 20,000, since it was designated after the

## Regional report

### Ronald Faux East Kilbride

last war. The population has grown towards 70,000.

The publicity department of the development corporation asserts that East Kilbride probably has more television sets, car owners and trees than any comparable town.

More crucial in a region with a reputation for neglect and social troubles, it has the lowest unemployment figure anywhere in Scotland outside oil-prosperous Aberdeen. Just over 2 per cent of its residents have no work compared with 8 per cent for Lanarkshire generally.

The crime rate is equally low and the strike record shows only one stoppage in the past 27 years. Statisticians are delving into the town's divorce rate hoping for further evidence of contentment.

Why this should be difficult to analyse. The new town, like many others, has shops with the usual nationally repeated names. Only a handful of truly local firms remain. Buildings have the same functional, slab-like quality of other new towns. Pedestrians and traffic are separated and shoppers breathe conditioned air.

"It's a change from our last place on the edge of Glasgow, where the house didn't have a

lavatory and my husband didn't have a job", a housewife told me. "People who say these new towns are stamped out, stereotyped and a bit dull make me angry. They miss the point."

Businessmen queue to take shop space, factories in the town are let before the foundations are laid, and East Kilbride has expectations of becoming a shopping centre serving a region in which 250,000 people live. A £10m shopping centre will double retailing space in the town. Reports from shopkeepers indicate that people are already coming to shop from a wider area than the estates around East Kilbride.

The commercial growth has been on a firmly private enterprise pattern with the town development corporation, a profit-making body, working with and collecting rents from a private property development company. That may seem odd for 15 members of the local council are Labour and only one is a Conservative. But there has been no friction, although there seems to be a change taking place in the town's political outlook.

The new district council which will take over next May will have only four Labour members, the Scottish National Party, seven, and the Conservatives, three. That has been taken as a sign that the prosperous new towns may lean more readily towards a self-determining Scotland, writing on the wall that the Labour Party is working hard to erase.

# Grouse will travel in style for dinner at Gleneagles

By a Staff Reporter

Polished guns will be unwrapped and loaded today for the opening of the grouse-shooting season. Some of the first grouse shot in Scotland will go to the kitchens of the Gleneagles Hotel, Perthshire, in the boat of a 50-year-old Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud driven by Major Lennox Jamieson.

Major Jamieson, who will be dressed in a military dress and accompanied by a gamekeeper and dog, will head them to Mr Maurice Cottee, the head chef. Later, suitably garnished,

they will be served for lunch at £3.50 a head.

Hundreds of other birds will travel less gloriously in the parcels carriage of a fast train from Scotland to London where they will be met by representatives for John Bailey and Son, the West End game specialists.

"Our men will work late to get them ready for the restaurants by 8 o'clock," the firm said. "Because of the mild winter in Scotland, most of the April-May hatchlings have survived. Prospects generally are said to be good."

Eagles are among several species of birds of prey which benefit from protection schemes provided by the society, which has full time wardens and dozens of volunteer helpers.

Birds that have benefited most include ospreys. Eleven of the 14 pairs in Scotland which Britain is feeding its young. At Fetlar, in the Shetlands, the society says, the only pair of snowy owls breeding in Britain is feeding its young, although a second attempt at nesting has been unsuccessful.

In Wales, only nine of the 20 red kite nests have produced young.

# Hope of more golden eagle pairs breeding

At least another pair of golden eagles may breed in England in future years, the Royal Society for the protection of birds said yesterday.

The first four such birds to have been bred in England for more than 200 years had been raised in the Lake District in the past three years, the society said. They were the offspring of a pair that had nested there since 1970. An eagle produced last year died after it was fledged.

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# Tory candidates are named

The following prospective parliamentary candidates were named yesterday:

Mr Nigel Hammond, aged 36, schoolmaster, Conservative, for Aberavon, held by Labour with a majority of 20,588.

Mr John Gripper, aged 45, veterinary surgeon, Conservative, for Swindon, held by Labour with a majority of 8,709.

# Canoeists rescued

Robert Davis, of Holin Grange, Ilkley, Yorkshire, and Peter Read, of Cliff Avenue, Cromer, Norfolk, both aged 18, were brought ashore by Cromer inshore rescue boat yesterday after their canoe capsized.

# Bus fares increase

The Potteries Motor Traction Company of Stoke-on-Trent, which serves north Staffordshire and south Cheshire, is to increase fares by up to 2p

# Immediate action urged to protect Sherwood Forest

By John Young  
Planning Reporter

Immediate action to conserve Sherwood Forest and protect its historic identity is called for in a report by a study group commissioned by Nottinghamshire County Council.

It recommends defining the forest as an area of special historic and landscape significance, which would allow closer control of development and give it higher priority in the allocation of funds. Management of land open to the public should be placed under a single body, with a well equipped ranger service, the report says.

It also recommends that the Ministry of Defence should make a phased withdrawal from the Dukeries tactical training centre.

Special management techniques will be required to enhance the wild life population, the report says. Natural regeneration of oak and birch should be allowed within the ancient forest and heathlands, and the introduction of alien species should be resisted.

No further land beyond pre-

sent commitments should be permitted for the tipping of colliery waste, and the reclamation of all disused or partly disused tips should be given top priority. The National Coal Board should take steps to minimize damage by subsidence, particularly in areas with landscape features, lakes and historic buildings.

No new industry should be allowed into the forest, and the smokeless fuel plant beside Thoresby colliery should be closed as a matter of urgency. The Trent River Authority's active campaign against pollution should be intensified.

The study group included representatives from the Department of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Defence, Countryside Commission, Forestry Commission, Nature Conservancy Council for the Protection of Rural England, Country Landowners' Association, National Coal Board and National Farmers' Union.

Copies of the report may be obtained from the Director of Planning and Transportation, County Hall, West Bridgeford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP, at £2. A summary costs 20p.

WEST EUROPE



President Giscard d'Estaing during his visit yesterday to the St Paul prison in Lyons, where prisoners were involved in disturbances last week.

# M Giscard talks to prisoners

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, Aug 11

M Giscard d'Estaing yesterday underlined his personal determination to proceed with reform of France's prison system when he became the first President to talk to prisoners in Lyons jail.

He spent more than two hours visiting the adjoining St Paul and St Joseph prisons, the most important in France, after Paris and Marseilles. He was accompanied by Mme Hele Dorthea, the new Secretary of State for Prison Conditions.

"From man-to-man contacts, wherever they may be and wherever they are, there is always a lot to be learnt, and I have learnt much about the facts and the men here," the President said on leaving.

"I chose Lyons," he went on, "because the two establishments here illustrate the ensemble of the detention problem in France. A large part of the buildings of the Lyons prison are old, though some modernization has begun since 200 prisoners staged a riot there in May last year. Twenty

prisoners were injured before police restored order. They had gone on hunger strike earlier to protest against conditions."

M Giscard d'Estaing had flown from Paris and the prison governor was only informed, the Elysee said, immediately beforehand. The President, who took the prisoners' lunch—tomato salad, then beef and runner beans—also met a prison wardens' delegation at the end.

The Lyons prison is supposed to take some 500 men, but according to a recent study by the Young Barristers' League, the average prison population is estimated at 800, about half of them people awaiting trial.

The President talked to the prisoners about the Government's programme of reform for prisons, a modest start on which was announced at last Wednesday's Cabinet meeting. An eruption of prison disturbances in July followed by a wave of strikes caused a setback to the original plans of M Jean Lecanuet, Minister of Justice.

Going to their cells, the President heard complaints about the long delays for those awaiting

trial, lack of work in prison and the poor remuneration for it. The prisoners welcomed the new scheme designed to save them from the stigma of a prison record when they try to get a job afterwards.

One butcher complained he was in jail awaiting trial because he had been refused on a charge of receiving stolen goods when a stolen horse had been found in his orchard. "The penal code is very old," he told the President. "That's true," M Giscard d'Estaing replied, "some of it dates from the French Revolution."

The governor repeatedly emphasized during the tour that credits from the Ministry of Justice had not permitted more modernization of the cells.

A group of five prisoners serving long sentences emphasized the fundamental importance of contact with the outside world, chiefly their families.

If one could kiss one's wife or daughter instead of being behind bars there would be less suicides," they told him. Last year there were 42 suicides in French prisons.

# EEC farm ministers face crisis talks

From David Cross  
Brussels, Aug 11

The normally sacrosanct calm of Brussels during the long summer break is in jeopardy as European farmers continue their protests because of the various measures taken by EEC member states to pacify them.

The chances of the ministers of agriculture of the Nine meeting to interrupt their holiday for crisis talks in the European capital are growing daily.

Despite the Dutch Government's latest steps to give up fuel price concessions, more than 200 farmers descended on Utrecht this weekend for a massive protest rally. In the Ardennes angry Belgian farmers were drawing public attention to their plight by giving away free eggs and potatoes and selling bees and pork on the streets at giveaway prices.

So far the Italians, the French, the Belgians and the Dutch have all taken unilateral steps to try to help their ailing farmers. All but the Dutch have ridden roughshod over the rules and regulations of the Community's common agricultural policy. Other countries may well follow suit. Luxembourg has already announced its intention of following the example of Belgium. The farmers and the Germans, too, are under mounting pressure to act.

M Pierre Lardinois, the European Commissioner for Agriculture, has been strongly resisting any badly prepared crisis meeting. He rightly fears that the ministers would be backed into a series of concessions which could bring about the collapse of the tottering agricultural policy.

Powerless to stop member governments he can only hope that the sun will shine and ministers will trouble away from Brussels for as long as possible.

# More cholera in Portugal

Lisbon, Aug 11.—Portuguese health authorities yesterday reported 150 cases of cholera from August 2 to 6, bringing the total since the outbreak began in April to 577.

A total of 19 people have died. The epidemic continues to be centred mainly in Oporto and Lisbon. There were 1 cases in the Algarve region town of Faro.—Reuter.

# Rome Opera House occupied by protesters

From Our Own Correspondent  
Rome, Aug 11

Choir, orchestra, dancers and technicians occupied the Rome Opera House last night to demand unpaid salaries and reform of the management of the theatre.

The protesters, 560 in all, were complaining that with opera in a critical state throughout the country, the Rome Opera House is in the worst position of all. They are to hold a meeting in the auditorium on Tuesday.

Meanwhile they are preparing a detailed account of their grievances and proposals for reinvigorating the operatic life of the capital.

# Women allowed to be bullfighters in Spain

Madrid, Aug 11.—Women's liberation has hoisted its flag on men's strongest bastion in Spain—bullfighting.

Tomorrow a decree will be published in the official state bulletin allowing women to become bullfighters, or toreros, as Spaniards prefer to call them.

The decree marks victory in a three-year court fight by Señora Angela Hernandez to end discrimination against women in bullfighting and win her the right to cape and kill bulls for money. "I'm overjoyed," said Señora Hernandez, aged 27. "I'm so excited I can't eat."

Señora Hernandez, a protégée of the great Manuel Benítez, "El Cordobés"—

fighting under the name of Angelita, has fought bulls in Latin America where women are not barred. She has been gored three times.

The Government decree will amend the Reglamento Taurino, a police ordinance governing bullfighting. Until now it has barred women from bullfighting except when they appeared in a comparatively version on horseback.

Señora Hernandez argued for permission to fight on foot and to cape and kill the bulls as the great matadors do. "Bullfighting is neither toil nor butchery," she said. "It's an art. It's grace and guts—surprisingly suited for modern women."

Her lawyers, arguing that the ban on woman bullfighters

violated modern Spanish legislation eliminating discrimination of sexes in any profession, carried her fight through labour and civil courts.

Last year they won an important victory when the Supreme Labour Court ordered the syndicate (trade union) of the bullfighters to accept her as a member and issue her a licence.

The Government, in eliminating the last obstacle to her appearance in the arenas, after more than 100 professions in bullfighting, including some of Spain's most famous matadors, had signed a petition last month.

Señora Hernandez said negotiations for her first appearance will start immediately. UPI.

# Secret Service files on Italians are destroyed

From Peter Nichols  
Rome, Aug 11

The burning of 33,000 Secret Service files on Italian citizens and about 7,500 other documents ordered by Parliament to be destroyed, was completed yesterday.

The files were taken from the Secret Service strong rooms by carabinieri lorries under armed escort and thrown into the incinerator of Fiumicino airport. The job took 24 hours. The documents relate to the first scandal involving the Ministry of Defence's counter-

espionage service in March, 1968, when the public heard that the Secret Service had arbitrarily extended its functions over much of the domestic scene.

Its files were said to total about 150,000, and included dossiers on parliamentarians, priests, industrialists, journalists and many private citizens.

In December, 1970, a parliamentary commission ordered the destruction of the files which it declared illegal. These were the ones burnt yesterday after a lapse of three and a half years.

# Criticism by the Pope of young terrorists

From Our Own Correspondent  
Rome, Aug 11

Referring to the suspicion that some young people played a part in the terrorist attack on the Rome-Munich express a week ago, the Pope today called on young Italians to respond to the promptings of friendship.

"From among you could arise the moral and ideal revival of our people," the Pope said. "Risk has taken the place of heroism... some form of fashionable theory has taken over the function of the truth and the dignity of the faith."

# W Berlin man jailed for aiding escapes

From Our Correspondent  
Berlin, Aug 11

Rainer Trautenberg, of West Berlin, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment by the district court in Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany, for "aiding escapes" and "misuse of transit agreement" for German fugitives.

The German news agency reported today. This means the help of people to escape.

It was the forty-seventh sentence for this offence reported by the agency since July 11, 1973. Reports did not give details of the dates of arrest or trial.

# Let's go to EUROPE

★ British Caledonian operate high frequency daily services to most parts of the EEC as well as other European centres from Gatwick—London's most accessible airport, and particularly handy for businessmen in the South East.

★ The first departure to Brussels out of London on weekdays—and the only airline on the route from Gatwick.

★ Paris flights to Charles de Gaulle, Europe's newest airport.

★ The only airline with Gatwick—Rotterdam services—with connections to Delft and The Hague.

jet—with seat selection on every flight\*

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★ Passengers travelling via London can check in at our Central London Air Terminal at Victoria Station.

★ Fast rail link to airport—no traffic hold ups. London—40 minutes. Croydon—30 minutes. Brighton—40 minutes.

(cheaper short term airport parking for drivers).

★ Domestic flights link up at Gatwick with our European services—and our European services link up with our international flights.

★ For details of flight times, Skydrive bookings, and even the meals we serve on different flights, don't call us—call your travel agent.

\*Except on Gatwick—Le Touquet services—which also operate 35 minutes air bridge in the Silver Arrow rail-air service to Paris.

## LET'S GO BRITISH CALEDONIAN

Over 600 flights a week—Europe, North America, South America, Africa and within the UK



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OVERSEAS

## National Guard told to release Turkish prisoners

By A. M. Rendel  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
Cyprus, Aug 11

The second stage of the Cyprus conference between Britain, Greece and Turkey continued tonight. Mr. Callaghan, the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. George Kyriakides, the Greek Foreign Minister, and Mr. Turgut Ersoy, the Turkish Foreign Minister, are meeting with only one interpreter present.

Whatever the significance of the meeting—and there may be—no progress in the past two days, in spite of some exhibitions of temper by Mr. Ersoy, demonstrating the Turkish position.

The agreement is close on all the urgent problems which are to be settled if peace is to be restored to Cyprus.

The Greek government sent letters tonight for the release of Turkish Cypriots and Turkish prisoners and for the evacuation of the Greek Cypriots from the Turkish Cypriot enclaves.

Many parts of the island, it is said, could begin tomorrow the help of the international Committee of the Cross.

Evacuation of the enclaves will be the help of the United Nations force to whom the Turks will hand over the enclaves in the first instance.

It is essential, if violence is to be avoided, but it means the operation will take a week or two to complete.

Mr. Ersoy emphasized that orders were sent last night. They were not due, therefore, reported Turkish pressure this morning.

Britain may be in path of Cyprus vendetta

Continued from page 1

A squadron of Phantoms was sent to Cyprus to defend Nicosia airport at the height of the Turkish assault. This, and other decision to cancel withdrawal plans for a Marine commando battalion, followed signs of Turkish intransigence over Geneva peace talks.

It is reckoned that there are more than 5,000 British troops and 3,500 American troops in the island.

So far the only overt role played by Britain in the Cyprus conflict has been within the United Nations framework. However, Britain has now found itself in the position of being the only remaining guarantor.

It is now clear to concerned observers that British muscle saved Nicosia airport from falling to Turkish assault force. British reinforcements, including tanks equipped with swing-fire missiles, were rushed to the airport to bolster the United Nations units.

Phantoms lent the force a powerful power.

Clearly Britain is concerned with persistent reports of key's designs on a clean west line—called the Tulla line—which would expand its southern territorial claims to include all the territory between Morphou and Famagusta. Should this happen there would be sharp repercussions on the British bases on the island.

There have been signs that Greek extremists, in search of a scapegoat for what has befallen the island, may turn their political attentions towards Britain.

However, there are now indications that the campaign against Britain is assuming wider dimensions. In an outspoken article *Agon*, the newspaper which supports President Glafkos Clerides, severely attacked Britain for its failure to check the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

In the post-independence era the British bases were never a serious bone of political contention. Even the left-wing campaign was half-hearted to say the least. After all, it is estimated that they mean at least £20m to Cyprus each year.

However, the Turkish invasion, and occupation of the northern coast, has created a new situation.

In the political infighting that followed the coup and the Turkish reaction to it, the EOKA supporters have continued to strengthen their hand in these areas. Furthermore, the first inkling of what may be their future strategy came from Mr. Sampson, the former President and EOKA gunman, who said before he fled to exile last week: "I hate to say it, but I fear the British will be the next target. By the British I mean the bases."

Nicosia, Aug 11.—Cyprus was reported quiet today with no shooting incidents, although there was a fresh deployment of Turkish troops and tanks north of Nicosia.

Geneva, Aug 11.—The Turkish Government mission here alleged yesterday that a mine which killed a British BBC sound technician, Mr. Ted Stoddart, in Cyprus on Thursday was laid by Greek National Guards.—Reuter, Agence France-Press and UPI.

Five people die in Argentina guerrilla raids

Buenos Aires, Aug 11.—At least five people were killed when left-wing guerrillas launched synchronized attacks on army and police posts in central Argentina today, military sources reported. Two army officers were kidnapped in the raids.

Members of the outlawed Peoples' Revolutionary Army (ERP) attacked an army factory in Villa Maria, 140 miles south of Cordoba, and escaped with weapons and uniforms.

Other ERP guerrillas attacked military and police posts in the province of Catamarca, north-west of Cordoba, and exchanged fire with troops and police. It was the worst outbreak of guerrilla violence for many weeks.—Reuter.

Ir Callaghan to visit Zambia

London, Aug 11.—Mr. Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, accepted an invitation to visit Zambia. The dates for the visit will be arranged through diplomatic channels later.

British spokesman said the invitation was conveyed to Mr. Callaghan by Mr. Vernon Mwaanga, the Zambian Foreign Minister, at a meeting last night. Mr. Callaghan said it in principle.

Mwaanga flew here early for talks with Mr. Callaghan on developments in southern Africa.

A spokesman said the discussion between the two Ministers centred on problems of southern Africa, particularly reference to the situation, especially in light of the new situation in Portugal and its African territories.

## US foreign policy 'will not be changed'

Moscow, Aug 11.—Pravda today gave a qualified welcome to Mr. Ford as the new President of the United States.

"The Soviet people, as well as the peace loving people of the entire world, accept with satisfaction the statements of the new President and representatives of the Congress and United States political and business circles about their intention to continue to promote international détente and positive development of Soviet-American relations", it said.

"But this does not mean that all the opponents of the relaxation of tensions, who are attempting by all means to obstruct the normalisation of Soviet-American relations, no longer exist in the United States."

The thing to do now, Pravda said, "is to observe unwaveringly the earlier agreements to fulfil the pledges in order on the basis of what has been achieved, to go further in the improvement of Soviet-American relations".—Reuter.

Peking, Aug 11.—The departure of Mr. Nixon should not greatly change Sino-American relations although no immediate progress on matters of substance should be expected, according to American observers in Peking.

In addition to keeping Dr. Kissinger as Secretary of State, which will be welcomed in Peking, one of the first acts of President Ford was to send a message to China's leaders assuring them of the continuity of Washington's policies.

The American view is that Peking has a further assurance of an undeviating United States policy in the repeated support by both Republican and Democratic Congresses of such an unwavering line.—Agence France-Press.

Bonn, Aug 11.—President Ford has assured Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, that he intends to pursue his country's existing foreign policy, a government spokesman said in Bonn today.

Jerusalem, Aug 11.—Mr. Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, conferred with the Cabinet on messages received from President Ford and Dr. Kissinger.

Both Mr. Rabin and Mr. Allon, the Foreign Minister, emphasized that the messages from Washington referred to the continuity of America's foreign policy.—Reuter.

Cairo, Aug 11.—Egypt is pleased by indications from Washington that President Ford will follow the Middle East policy of Mr. Nixon in actively pursuing peace through a balance between the Arabs and Israelis, officials said.

By far the most heartening indication about the future trend of President Ford's Middle East policy, the officials said, was his retention of Dr. Kissinger in the Cabinet and his public praise of his foreign policy successes.

Damascus, Aug 11.—President Assad has promised President Ford that he will do all he can to strengthen relations between Syria and the United States, Damascus radio said.

The radio said that in a message delivered to President Assad on Friday, Mr. Ford also promised fully to abide by all American commitments to Syria and other countries of the world. He said he would continue to "work actively for a just and permanent peace in the Middle East".—UPI.

Three killed in pay clashes

Delhi, Aug 11.—At least three people were killed and several injured today when police fired at workers at a rail wagon factory in the town of Bharatpur, 100 miles south of Delhi.

Twenty policemen were injured in clashes which followed a reduction in workers' wages as a form of compulsory savings to combat inflation.—Reuter.

Prison team beats Oxford debaters

Auckland, Aug 11.—Prisoners in Auckland's top security jail at Paremoremo defeated the Oxford Union team in a debate yesterday. Oxford opposed the motion "It is not worth the effort".

Baby lives after rail fall

Lourenço Marques, Aug 11.—A newborn baby which fell through a toilet basin in a railway train on to the tracks on Friday, was found alive and well hours later.

Otto Kruger ill

Woodland Hills, California, Aug 11.—Otto Kruger, aged 88, the character actor, is in hospital after suffering a slight stroke at his Bel Air home.

Asian earthquake

Uppsala, Sweden, Aug 11.—The Seismological Institute today reported a Central Asian earthquake which was the strongest registered this year.

Miss Kerr returns

New York, Aug 11.—Deborah Kerr, the British actress, will return to the New York stage next January after 20 years, starring in a new play, *Sea-Change*, by Edward Albee.

Skydiver killed

Tokyo, Aug 11.—A skydiver fell 4,600ft to his death before a crowd of 20,000 at an air show in northern Japan today. His parachute failed to open properly after it hit another parachute.

Amnesty attack

Amnesty International today challenged a South African Government claim that floggings in Namibia are "tribal law and custom" in their report, *Flogging in Namibia*.

Tankers' crew saved

Durban, Aug 11.—The 33-man crew of the Norwegian tanker *Produce* were rescued today after the vessel ran aground on rocks just after leaving Durban harbour for New Orleans.

Communists freed

Kuching, Aug 11.—Fifty-two detainees, including 11 women, were released yesterday from protective custody after being held for between 18 months and 12 years. They were former members of illegal Sarawak communist organizations.—Reuter.



President Ford talking yesterday with the Rev Patricia Park and the Rev William Dols after attending service at Emanuel Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Virginia, where he has his home.

messages received from President Ford and Dr. Kissinger.

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## Mr Nixon 'bearing up well' in private life

From Patrick Brogan  
Washington, Aug 11

Former President Nixon is secluded in his house in California, adjusting himself to his sudden fall from office. He still has the Secret Service to protect him and a large staff to handle the mail, but his world has collapsed and there is small consolation in policemen and secretaries.

His changed position was illustrated at the moment of his arrival in Los Angeles on Friday. He flew from Washington in the President's personal aircraft, but he was met and taken home in an ordinary passenger helicopter supplied by the Government. Even his Secret Service detail will be drastically cut.

San Clemente, California, a suburb south of Los Angeles where millionaires' houses line the coast between the railway and the motorway, will have to adjust to the new reality. There is no more "Western White House".

Two old friends, Mr. "Bebe" Rebozo and Mr. Robert Abt, have flown to San Clemente to keep Mr. Nixon company. His wife is there, of course, and so is his daughter, Tricia, and her husband, Mr. Edward Cox. The other daughter, Julie, has stayed in Washington to pack.

Mr. Nixon's personal secretary, Miss Rose Mary Woods, has also stayed in Washington, presumably to supervise the packing of his papers. No one knows whether the celebrated library of tape recordings will be allowed to leave the White House, nor what will be done about those papers subpoenaed by the special prosecutor which the Supreme Court ordered Mr. Nixon to deliver. There was no time to find them before the debacle.

A few of his once-mighty assistants have accompanied him into exile. They include Mr. Ron Ziegler, the former press secretary, whose last function was to act as confidant and general factotum to the President.

A New York literary agent has disclosed that Miss Woods approached him a few months ago to discuss the possible commercial value of Mr. Nixon's memoirs. He replied that Mr. Nixon should get at least \$2m (£300,000) for them, and heard no more about it.

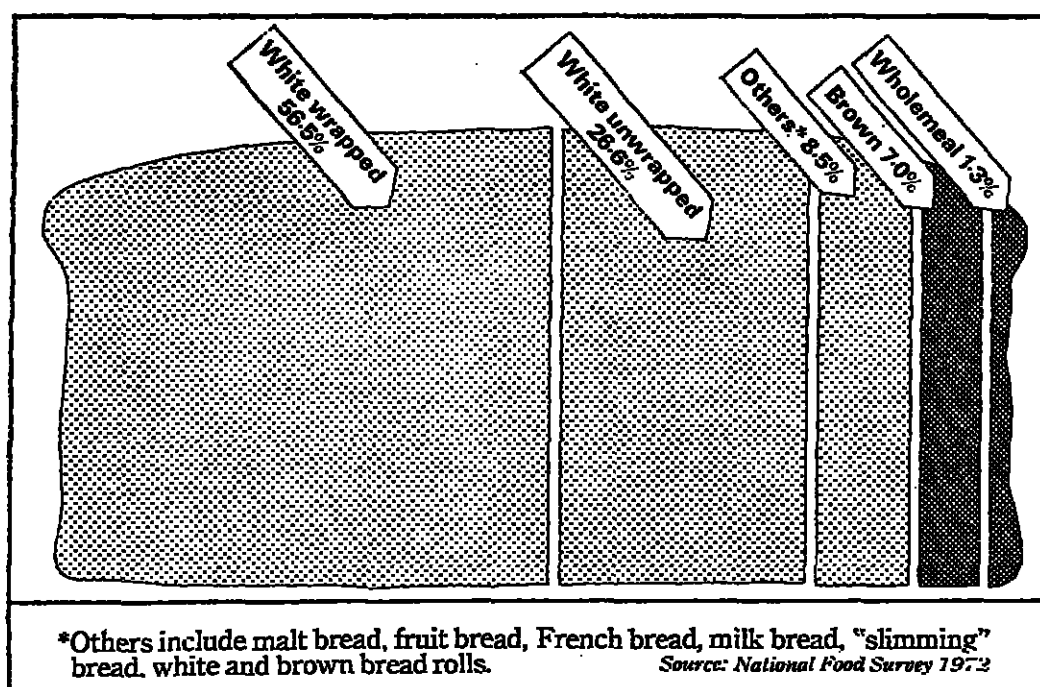
The details of Mr. Nixon's last days in office are slowly coming out. It is reported that his lawyers, Mr. James St. Clair and Mr. Fred Buzhardt, together with his chief of staff, General Alexander Haig, threatened to resign a week ago if Mr. Nixon did not publish the transcripts.

Mr. St. Clair, apparently without Mr. Nixon's permission, showed the transcripts to Mr. Charles Wiggins, a Republican congressman from California, who had been Mr. Nixon's most effective defender on the House Judiciary Committee. Mr. Wiggins reportedly told him that if the facts disclosed in the transcripts, that the President had taken part in the Watergate cover-up from the start, were not exposed immediately, he would do so himself. Mr. Wiggins was therefore ready with an immediate announcement that he would now vote for impeachment when the transcripts were published last Monday.

# Choose your loaf-or can you?

## What is the British loaf? And who bakes it? Do you have a real choice of bread and baker?

In Britain, bread can be brown or white, crusty or wrapped, plain or fancy, branded or otherwise. There is a ready choice, and the housewife who pays the piper calls the tune. Her main choice is clear—the white, sliced and wrapped loaf. This accounts for nearly 60 per cent of bread eaten in the home as compared, for instance, to about 1½ per cent of wholemeal bread.



### What price Mr. Big?

The industry believes that there is room for all kinds of baker, that the housewife is the first to benefit from the healthy competition which exists. On the one hand, the smaller baker offers a valuable local service; on the other hand, the larger bakers ensure that their branded loaves are as readily available in the Orkneys, for instance, as in London—this, in itself, is an extraordinary service which is offered in few other countries.

There's no plot, no backstairs manipulation: go where you like to buy the bread you like. Choose your loaf and use it—it's still the best food value in Britain.

For free copies of this advertisement and others in the series, write to The Advertising Officer, The Flour Advisory Bureau Ltd, 21 Arlington Street, London SW1A 1RN.

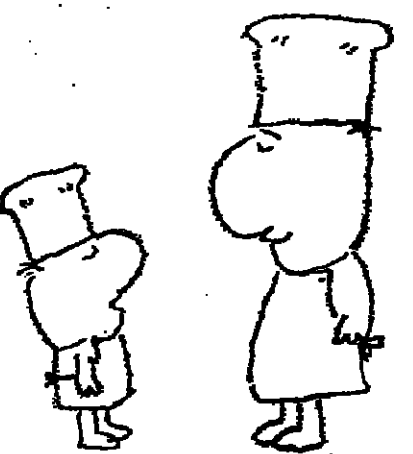
## Bread: still the best food value in Britain

ISSUED BY THE FLOUR ADVISORY BUREAU

And this is not merely a reflection of availability. In her normal shopping round, the housewife can expect to find a choice of bread covering anything up to 30-35 types, shapes and sizes.

### Must the small baker go to the wall?

Who makes the bread you buy? About two-thirds of it comes from three large groups of flour miller-bakers. In addition to these large firms, there are about 100 bakers who distribute their bread over wide areas, and some 4,000 small 'master bakers', each of whom owns one or two shops and bakes on the shop premises.



The way Government price controls have been operating has hit hardest at those bakers who are unable to support their bread production by other diversified activities. If maintained over a long period, unrealistic



OVERSEAS

# Portugal to ask UN to recognize Guinea-Bissau while Angolans are offered a slower road to freedom

From Jose Shercliff  
Lisbon, Aug 11

Portugal's Junta has set out its terms on Angolan independence. This follows hard on the heels of rumours that the peace talks with the Guinea-Bissau nationalists are a stage nearer to a conclusion.

A mysterious visit by Dr Mario Soares, the Foreign Minister, and Senhor Almeida Santos, Minister of Inter-Territorial Coordination, to Algiers before this weekend has been followed by news that Dr Veniga Simão, Portuguese representative at the United Nations, will present a letter to the Security Council tomorrow promising that Portugal will give full recognition to independent Guinea-Bissau once final agreement has been reached between Portugal and the nationalist movement PAIGC.

It is presumed that the two ministers went to Algiers for further talks with the PAIGC. It is believed here that one important point still to be worked out is a formula for a transfer of military powers from Portugal to Guinea-Bissau. The Junta's six-point plan provides for a two-year period in which complete political independence will be achieved.

The Junta insists on a ceasefire before negotiations governing Angola's future can properly begin. Once agreement has been reached on this

the Portuguese will immediately form a provisional Angolan government representing all freedom fighting groups, the chief ethnic groups and the white population.

This government will work out an electoral law guaranteeing free expression of the will of the population and it will compile an electoral roll on the basis of a census.

The Junta's decision to elect within two years a constituent assembly by universal suffrage and this assembly will draw up a constitution. When this has been approved the constituent assembly will be dissolved and new elections will take place under the constitution.

Thus an Angolan legislative assembly and government will be formed "representative of the sovereign will of the people of Angola", according to the Junta. The decisions of this government will be respected by Portugal "according to democratic principles".

The Junta also is willing to allow United Nations observers to witness all the developments. It also reiterates solemnly to all the population of Angola that the provisional government will take all necessary steps to safeguard the life and property of the residents of Angola, whatever their colour or creed, in accordance with the programme of the Armed Forces Movement.

A further four persons have died and 16 injured in rioting in Luanda, the Angolan capital,

bringing the total of casualties to at least 30 killed and 130 injured since troubles broke out there last month.

Kinshasa, Aug 11.—The National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA) yesterday rejected parts of the Portuguese Government blueprint for independence as an attempt to cause "secession and chaos".

The FNLA statement released here today said the liberation movement "rejects the Junta's decision to recognize and grant powers of representation to ethnic groups".

If the FNLA is reluctantly forced to admit that the Portuguese minority should be associated with the building of Angola's future, it cannot, on the other hand, accept that tribal groupings should be built up as representatives of currents of ethnic opinion", the statement was quoted as saying.

The FNLA therefore refused to take note that the Portuguese Government's avowed wish to decolonize should be associated with manoeuvres to encourage secession and chaos in Angola", the statement added.

Lisbon, Aug 11.—Portugal will tomorrow ask the United Nations to recognize independent Guinea-Bissau and admit it to the world organization.

The PAIGC—the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands—is already recognized by about 90 countries. It was announced in Canberra today that Australia is to extend recognition.—Reuter.

# Front-page hero from the ranks of Frelimo

From Michael Knipe  
Lourenço Marques, Aug 11

At a pavement café in Beira African waiters crowd excitedly around one of the white waiters reading an English-language newspaper.

Their interest is centred on a front-page picture of a bearded, grinning Frelimo guerrilla wearing combat uniform. He is one of the first of the rebel fighters to emerge from the bush in the wake of the Portuguese withdrawal from Mozambique since an unofficial peace began 10 days ago.

The guerrilla is clearly a hero figure, a freedom fighter to the waiters.

In Lourenço Marques, 10,000 like-minded Africans display their enthusiasm at a pro-Frelimo rally at the bullfighting stadium. Meanwhile, in suburban homes and city clubs white intellectuals debate the style and substance of the new multiracial independence that is within sight.

In villages and settlements throughout the country Frelimo cells surface and request, and are granted, permission to hold meetings to inform the public of the movement's policies.

This is the situation in Mozambique today and there will undoubtedly be a tumultuous welcome some day soon when Frelimo's leaders, Samora Machel and Marcelino dos Santos, make their triumphant official entry into the country.

There is another side to the picture, however.

An estimated 1,000 whites are leaving for Europe by a standstill. The members of the white community are simply going on holiday—and others are moving to South Africa and Rhodesia.

Farmers, uncertain of the future, are not planting next year's crops. A dock strike has caused a 25-day delay at the ports, and there are strikes on at the railways and iron foundries.

Government is virtually at a standstill. Its members offer their resignations three weeks ago, and it is likely to remain that way until the Lisbon military authorities appoint an interim body, which is expected to be dominated by Frelimo elements.

More seriously, law and order in the remote areas of the country is under strain. Bandits, disowned by Frelimo and alleged by some to be not, are holding up cars and buses. Tribal antagonisms, played up in the past by the Portuguese and played down now by Frelimo and its supporters, are again unquiet factors.

There are approximately 40,000 Africans in the Portuguese Army, whose sympathy towards Frelimo must be at least in question.

On the other side, the turnabout in attitude among many whites has been little short of remarkable. In four months they have progressed from regarding Frelimo as a terrorist group to accepting it as a prospective government.

# Criticism of modern obstetric practices is growing. In these articles the brave new childbirth is examined from two points of view: Our Medical Correspondent, Dr Tony Smith, explains how and why doctors play an increasingly active role in childbirth. Mrs Jean Robinson speaks for the women who have written to her as a result of her researches on consumer attitudes to health care. Mrs. Robinson sat on a regional hospital board for seven years and is now a member of her local Community Health Council.

## Active management of childbirth 'reduces hazards and anxiety'

During the past few years the whole pattern of maternity care has changed because of the government policy that provision should be made for all births to take place in hospital.

In many areas "uneconomic" domiciliary services have disappeared and consumer choice within the Health Service has diminished. Women may have to fight hard to retain what domiciliary services still exist. They could start by asking why Holland, with more than half of its babies born at home at less cost than here, has a lower perinatal mortality rate than the United Kingdom.

Many women now have no choice but to give birth in hospital. But treatment within hospitals has also been changed—by skilled and hardworking hospital doctors who believe that by using the latest techniques to induce or speed up labour they are providing the best possible care for their patients.

Women who have strong views on their right to have a natural labour, if this is possible, may have to start collecting and exchanging information quickly if they are to exercise whatever choices remain.

Surveys by the new Community Health Councils could be invaluable, and they could serve as a focus for the information to be issued by the Association for the Improvement of Maternity Services.

Articles in medical journals describing how labour can be induced or speeded up with hormones administered by mouth, into the vagina, or even by injection into the uterus, seldom give any indication of what patients thought of their treatment, and none of the many I have read refers to possible effects on the mental health of the mother, or the father-child relationship, or information from consumers suggesting that these aspects of care may need investigation.

Letters and telephone calls I have received from mothers in England, Scotland and Wales suggest that some patients, both NHS and private, have reacted strongly against new obstetric methods, and a few have even placed themselves and their babies at risk in future pregnancies by refusing hospital care altogether. ("I'm going out to have my next baby under a bush.")

Information sent from the United States, Canada and Australia shows that, there, too, women are reacting against what American women call "the cultural warping of childbirth".

Not only mothers, but midwives, have expressed concern. In a recent article on daylight births in the *Nursing Times* a midwife wrote: "Rapid, painful labours, being induced without their full effects on mother or baby being known and these risks are being taken purely for the sake of convenience. Many of the babies are born in a shocked state. We do not know what causes labour to begin naturally or why one woman will deliver in two hours and another in eight, yet we charge in like a bull in a china shop and pump hormones into a patient to speed up her labour. How can anyone justify it?"

Obstetricians may be quite unaware of how strongly some women have objected to labour being induced or speeded up, since not all doctors communicate with patients. It is important, allow patients to communicate with them. Some have given the impression that they operate on the well-known principle of obstetric care that as a woman's waistline increases, her intelligence diminishes.

Whereas hospital staff are aware that patients, when being treated, are entitled to be treated with respect, a number of women who contacted me reported that they were in fact speechless with anger at antenatal clinics, or that they felt too vulnerable to complain. Some who tried to object said protests were ignored. No doubt, if a woman is to struggle, she will be interested to hear from them if the area health authority is unable to resolve their complaint satisfactorily.

Since maternity hospitals are, according to the report of the Davis Committee on Hospital Complaints, less likely than any other kind of hospital to tell patients how complaints can be made, valuable information on consumer reaction may not reach the authorities.

The terrible ordeal of Wanda, the heroine of Isaac Bashevis Singer's best-selling story *The Slave*, should remind us that until the present century any woman, peasant or noble, was likely to struggle through a difficult childbirth lasting for two or three days only for it to end in death.

Natural childbirth is not always a simple and beautiful process—it may be long and painful. Nevertheless, the traditional medical attitude has been one of non-interference: neither doctor nor midwife would do more than watch and comfort if labour was normal unless many hours had passed and no progress was being made. As recently as 1959, my own obstetric teacher, a gentle giant from Singapore, used to measure the stage at which intervention could be justified by the Malaysian saying that "the sun should not be allowed to set twice on a woman in labour".

Since then attitudes have changed, and an advocate of active management of labour such as Professor Kieran O'Driscoll now proudly asserts that every woman who attends the National Maternity Hospital in Dublin for the birth of her first baby is given an assurance that her labour will last less than 12 hours. Indeed more and more obstetric units are using the active approach.

Unless the progress of labour is very rapid, physical methods are used to speed it up. A minor operation is performed (rupture of the membranes), releasing some of the fluid surrounding the baby: this allows the baby's head to be pushed further into the pelvis and speeds up the process of stretching the cervix. An intravenous infusion is set up to allow administration at a controlled rate of oxytocin, a hormone which stimulates muscular contraction by the uterus. With these techniques the vast majority of women can be delivered within 12 hours, and when active management of labour is combined with monitoring of the foetal well-being and epidural anaesthesia, the full panoply of modern technological obstetrics is seen in action.

When labour had been induced or speeded up because there were clear indications that this was necessary, and the reasons explained, and the patient given an opportunity to ask questions, mothers were invariably satisfied with the treatment they received, and deeply grateful. They had been particularly happy in hospitals where doctors and midwives understood their emotions, as well as physical needs and had treated them as individuals. Ironically it was the former domiciliary midwives now working in hospital, whose valuable training ground in the community no longer exists, who were often best able to provide the personal support mothers needed to make new techniques more acceptable.

It was mothers who believed, rightly or wrongly, that labour had been induced or "managed" solely in order to fit in with a hospital's "conveyor belt" system of delivery. They were concerned that medical techniques which could prevent prolonged labour, save lives, or produce healthier babies, but felt these were being misused if mothers were "turned into battery hens".

Although induction rather than active management caused most critical comments, the belief of some consultants that a shorter labour is invariably welcomed is untrue. ("They said it would take too long without the drip. Too long for whom? I wondered.")

Women who had trained and hoped for natural childbirth felt cheated. ("I feel I didn't have my baby at all—he was produced for me with the aid of drugs and machinery.")

Their questions about the reasons for their own treatment and to be active rather than passive partners in the production of their own babies had been ignored. ("From the time you get into hospital you are in their hands and, though what they suggest or prescribe may be totally unsuited to you as a person, you are rarely consulted.")

Strong indignation had been aroused in women who felt their rights to a voice in their own treatment and to be active rather than passive partners in the production of their own babies had been ignored. ("From the time you get into hospital you are in their hands and, though what they suggest or prescribe may be totally unsuited to you as a person, you are rarely consulted.")

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# £360,000 demand by Britain over air ban

Tokyo, Aug 11.—Britain has asked Japan to pay £360,000 a year in compensation for banning British Airways jumbo jets from Osaka international airport, it was reported here today.

All jumbo airlines have been barred from landing at the airport in western Japan because of opposition from local residents who say the aircraft would be a hazard.

The national newspaper *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Tokyo Shimbun* both quoted the demand as saying Britain had asked Japan to allow its Boeing 747 jets to land at the airport under the Anglo-Japanese civil aviation agreement.

Britain told Japan if this could not be done it should pay compensation or provide a new route for British Airways, the reports said.

Japanese Government officials fear the United States, France, Italy, the Netherlands and south-east Asian countries might make similar demands in future, the reports said.

During the Anglo-Japanese civil aviation negotiations which started in London on August 1, the British side has complained that the terms of the agreement were not being carried out.

The British side demanded that Japan immediately allow the two flights to call at Osaka. If this cannot be done, Japan should pay an indemnity of £360,000 a year.

The British side explained that they stood to lose about £1,800,000 a year by not having British Airways flights land at Osaka.

The Japanese side has explained the situation at Osaka airport and rejected the British demands on the ground that jumbo jets were barred from Osaka airport not in the British case alone.

In February, Britain had JAL discontinue its three weekly flights on the Hongkong-Sydney line in retaliation for Japan's refusal to allow Cathay Pacific Airways to operate seven weekly flights on the Osaka-Seoul route. Reuter and Agence France-Press.

# Col Gaddafi threatens to 'expose' President Sadat

Beirut, Aug 11.—"The Libyan Government has a number of facts and recordings" whose publication will deprive President Sadat of Egypt of sleep, Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, said in an interview here today.

He accused President Sadat of sabotaging the Federation of Arab Republics, which includes Egypt, Syria and Libya, and said the Egyptian President was in Babylonian captivity.

In the interview with Beirut's *Al Ushu al Arabi* magazine, Colonel Gaddafi described Israel as a "paper tiger" and said the Arabs could destroy it in 12 hours if they adopted a sound strategy.

He blamed the rift in Egyptian-Libyan relations on Egyptian journalists "who make bets with one another that they can force a crisis with this or that country the following day."

He believed that President Sadat no longer has control over Egyptian information media. On our part, we have not decided to attack Egypt and Sadat yet, although we have many facts and recordings that explain matters conclusively.

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# Moscow denies Romania sabotage

By Gabriel Ronay  
Pravda has angrily rejected Bucharest rumours alleging Soviet involvement in a series of devastating fires and explosions which have crippled a number of key industrial plants in Romania.

The newspaper insisted that neither the Soviet Union nor any of its Warsaw Pact allies had anything to do with the fires and explosions.

Western reports of the alleged sabotage acts were "yet another attempt to create tensions in the Balkans".

But Pravda did not say that the rumoured explosions resulting in heavy loss of life, were without foundation.

After a long silence and perhaps understandable hesitation, the Romanian Communist Party newspaper *Scintila* has now confirmed that fires and explosions had indeed taken place in a number of industrial plants.

Romania's "friendly relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries"



## ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

In a number of recent issues some of the details of the 1974-75 season have appeared in the columns of this section. The following is a list of the main events of the season, as far as they are known at present.

CONFERENCE CLAUSE IN OUR READERS DUE TO TIME PRESSURE

## OPERA AND BALLET

NATIONAL OPERA

LONDON OPERA

LONDON OPERA

LONDON OPERA

LONDON OPERA

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## MONDAY BOOK

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## Embroidering the myth

Richard Holmes

Adventures of a Younger Son  
By Edward John Trelawny

Edited with an Introduction by William St Clair (Oxford, £5.50)

Edward Trelawny has been

doomed to be remembered, not

as he so passionately desired,

for himself, but for his friends:

Shelley, Lord Byron, the Greek

freedom-fighter, Odysseus, the

exiled poet, Walter Savage

Landon. It is a curious and

peculiarly modern fate: to have

dreamed of playing the grand

heroic role, and to have woken

as one of the chorus—a retired

sailor, a Cornish yeoman, a

fairly raffish dinner-out who

comes only to tell other men's

tales.

Trelawny's genius, or his

damnation, was to be in the

right place at the right time,

and in another more journal-

istic age, one can imagine that

he would have made a superb

Foreign Correspondent. He

officiated at the great high

moments of the Romantic

catastrophe—the moments of

self-dedication and death—and

then, alone, he came back alive

to recount the story and em-

brother the myth. Such is the

substance of his best and most

celebrated book, *Records of**Shelley, Byron, and the Author,*

which brought him fame in

1858 (now finely edited, with

varia, in Penguin 1973). It is a

brilliant, vividly evocative

account of the Romanticism in

reality, and it is a pity that

it is so often read in isolation,

with an anecdotal intensity

that brings incomparable life.

For a later generation of

literary Victorians, Trelawny

gained a kind of Homeric dig-

nity as the great survivor of the

romantic age, almost a great

evidence. In 1874 Millais

brought him a sort of apo-

theosis in his portrait of the

grizzled, indomitable sea-dog

of "The North West Passage",

still clasped by a willing dam-

sel, and a contemporary mag-

azine described him as a mon-

umental, pagan figure "who

rather suggests the Lives of

Plutarch than anything

modern". Swinburne adored

him, at a safe distance, for his

conquered Athens and republic-

anism while small, nicker-

more daring and more familiar,

made him prove he could still

crack three walnuts in one

minute, weather-beaten

But Trelawny's real bid for

the heroic role had been made

earlier, in his first book, *Ad-**ventures of a Younger Son*. It is

an account of his life between

the ages of 13 and 21, largely

spent buccannering on the

Indian Ocean and in the China

Seas during the Napoleonic

Wars, after deserting from a

Naval frigate at Bombay. It was

published in 1831, when

Trelawny was 39, and he

always referred to it as

factual autobiography. It is

the documentation of those

wonderful, piratical reminis-

cences he brought as his literary

passport to the Pisan circle in

1822, so that Byron instantly

recognized a romantic pro-

tagonist in search of an author:

"I have met today the personi-

fication of my *Corsair*." Though

in the event Trelawny chose

Shelley.

Trelawny's story is long,

exotic, anecdotal, and boister-

ous: incident pursues incident

across 400 pages like a flock

of multi-coloured parakeets

shaken out of an extensive palm

tree. Young Trelawny—cruel, in-

articulate, unloved, a struggling

in some aristocratic kind of



















## Form your own government at home

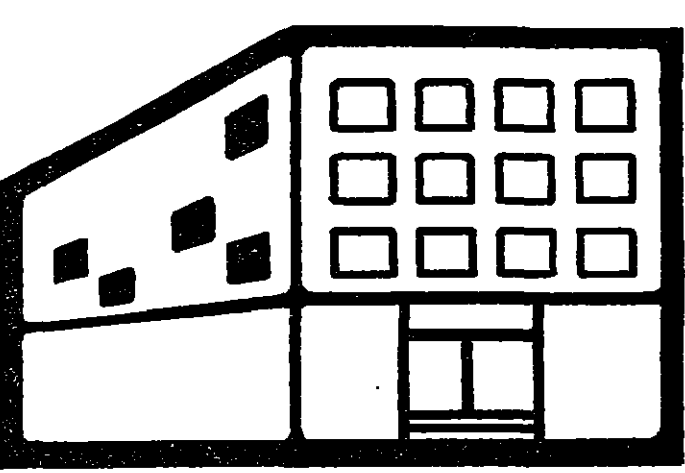
"Leading member of rival party discovered in compromising situation"; "Daughter of rival politician found shoplifting"; Prominent rival party member stopped for speeding" those are all headlines guaranteed to lose 200,000 votes each. On the other hand, the same number of votes is to be gained by "Promise instant review of pensions if elected", and by "Make extravagant promises to build more homes".

Although all this has a feeling about it, the headlines are in fact to be found on the cards in *Election*, a board game which has just reached the shops. While Mr Wilson makes up his mind on the date of any autumn election, the rest of us go to the polls whenever we choose, in a six-sided contest so fair that all parties—Labour, Conservative, Liberal, Nationalist, Socialist or Independent—have an equal chance of forming a government.

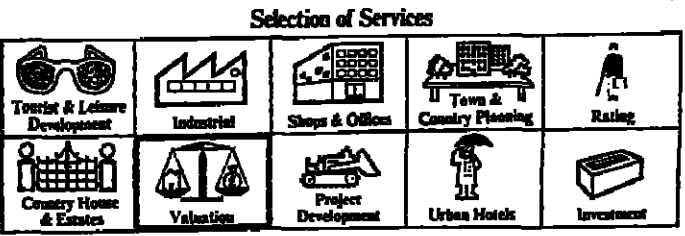
The mechanics of the game involve a map of Britain split into areas of the size of the West Country or Greater London, each containing its special interests such as Housewives, Retired People, Industrial Workers, Executives and so on. Players lay down tokens to consolidate old or gain new votes. Some tokens represent increased pensions, while others turn out to be "Hollow Promise Tokens", a cynical touch in the game which does not bring extra votes but which keeps opponents out.

Jonathan Sale

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# Mr Wilson must realize the 'special relationship' is dead

The Americans have come to view Britain as just another European country

**'Mr Ford is hardly likely to respond enthusiastically to sentimental appeals from London, from the leader of a party divided over Europe'**

The Labour Party's hankering for the long-departed special relationship with the United States is difficult to understand in spite of Mr Wilson's professed preference for Bourbon whiskey. Judged by the standards of the party's manifesto the two are, in any case, incompatible.

By Labour standards, American capitalism has a more unacceptable face than the local visage. If Mr Scanlon and Mr Jones were American Labour leaders they would bring the economy to a standstill in the efforts to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act. Labour contracts of two or three years' duration would surely be anathema.

On the other hand, the American trade union movement believes that the business of America is business. If Mr Meany was general secretary of the TUC, he would call in the Special Branch to purge the movement of those he would regard as communists and com-synps.

For these and other reasons, many Labour MPs really do not like Americans and what is known as the American way of life. Some are offended by the American willingness to recognize and support military juntas, and have been much exercised by the earlier American reluctance to recognize communist regimes.

And what about Holy Loch? Would nuclear submarines have to sail away if the special relationship was resurrected? That question alone underlines their incompatibility.

Political memories are short of course, but it was war—the Second World War and the Cold War—which created the special relationship. It was perpetuated, long after the unequal status of the two countries became painfully evident, because of British insistence, even in the face of American reluctance and embarrassment.

The Anglo-American special relationship was a long time dying because of official British reluctance to accept the diminished status of the post-imperial era. It was kept alive first by Mr Macmillan, who established an almost avuncular personal relationship with President Kennedy, and then by Mr Wilson when he went to Washington as Prime Minister in 1964.

He kept it alive by insisting that the United States and Britain were the only two world powers capable of maintaining the peace, a fiction which President Johnson happily accepted because it promised to relieve him of a few of his defence commitments.

It was finally killed by Mr Wilson when he refused to send a token force to Vietnam and subsequently withdrew from the Persian Gulf.

In political terms all this was a long time ago. Hence the usefulness of Ian McDonald's *Anglo-American Relations Since the Second World War*. It is a narrative largely based on official documents which records the achievements and failures of the relationship. Above all, it is a reminder that when the policies of the two countries differed, the interests of the United States invariably prevailed.

The biggest confrontation was of course the 1956 Suez crisis. McDonald, who was a member of the Times staff in Washington, recalls that the British government felt, with reason, that the United States had failed to stand by its most loyal ally in a matter vital to that ally's interest. In the long run, the American refusal to support the Anglo-French venture probably saved the two nations from becoming entangled in a far worse situation, but the manner in which the United States abandoned its allies rankled deeply.

The Skybolt incident showed, when British defence policies conflicted with America's changing strategic plans, that the United States was swift to disregard any claims of the "special relationship". To many Britons it appeared at times that the relationship was a one-way street in which Britain received very little in return for her loyalty.

This was not strictly true. The mutual contempt of the then British Foreign Secretary and American Secretary of State had for each other did not help, but the United States could not have been expected to support Suez, a venture which also had bitterly divided Britain. The then American Defence Secretary may have cancelled Skybolt without giving a thought to British requirements. He was a man without political sensibility, but the affair dramatically illustrated that Britain just did not have the necessary economic strength to masquerade as a partner to a superpower.

The Americans were impatient with British nuclear pretensions, but charitable enough to make amends by providing Palares. The offer aroused the wrath of de Gaulle, who blackballed Britain's application for European membership and threw the Atlantic Alliance into a state of disarray from which it never recovered.

No one could forecast what would have happened if this train of events had been avoided, but even before the Skybolt incident President Kennedy, for all his affection for Mr Macmillan, had indicated that Britain was only one of the European allies and that her place was in Europe. Perhaps the Americans did not press hard enough. Perhaps they were too kind or sentimental. Whatever the reason, the special relationship did not serve Britain's interest.

One thing is obvious. Britain's place, as Americans see it, is in Europe. The diplomatic and defence arrangements which were the special relationship belong to the past. McDonald makes the point by quoting what Dr Henry Kissinger said as early as 1964.

After remarking that Anglo-American relations would always be "special" because of the unique ties of language and culture, Dr Kissinger said: "As the postwar period progressed, many influential Americans have come to believe that Britain has been claiming influence out of proportion to its power. Consequently they have pressed Britain to substitute close association with Europe for special ties across the Atlantic. They believe that Britain should be treated as simply one of other European countries."

Dr Kissinger then spoke in private capacity, but he has not changed his mind since becoming Secretary of State. Indeed he seems to regard Britain as a misshapen island in the Atlantic. President Gerald Ford is an Anglophobe, but he is certainly not an Anglophile. He is a typical of Middle Westerners without strong ethnic ties. They have outlived their xenophobia. In Europe means little or nothing to them except as a place to which to spend a vacation.

Mr Ford does not share the residual contempt, but he is hardly likely to respond enthusiastically to sentimental appeals from London, from the leader of a party divided over Europe.

The lesson is clear. If Wilson wants to retain a normal relationship with Washington, which is all he can hope for, he should read McDonald's book and make sure that Britain remains a member of the European Economic Community.

Anglo-American Relations in the Second World War by Ian McDonald (David and Charles, Newton Abbot, £5.50).

Louis Hen

known as Emergency 1 Four, issued in April, it is offence, punishable by death or life imprisonment, to belong to the National Student League of Students. But the decree has wider implications. It goes to declare: "It shall be prohibited for any person to a cate, instigate, propagandize, publish, report, otherwise communicate, or in any other way participate in any act which is prohibited by the emergency laws." The decree specifically prohibits demonstrations, the right of assembly on democratic institutions. A person who criticizes the decree is punished by death, imprisonment or imprisonment for not less than five years.

Under the terms of an decree any person who criticizes President Park or the situation can be imprisoned 15 years. The constitution which was foisted on the country in 1972 and under demands for earlier direct elections and a President Park to extend term in office.

The Government attempt justify its actions on two grounds. First, Bang Lim, special adviser to President Park, claims that it is unfair to measure the Government's shrill war against Western democratic institutions. Reiterating the danger of a Communist attack, Lim says: "There are Communists in our midst. We cannot allow them to have the same democratic system here. Conditions different."

However, senior officers command the 38,000 American troops stationed in Korea, that military activity in Korea does not justify President Park's claim.

At the same time the Government maintains Korea cannot afford like democratic institutions. Her economy has been built on the backs of the regime's opponents, who have been persecuted because they opposed the right or left wing of the authoritarian rule, are quick to point out that thousands of Americans, British and other who sacrificed their lives for the regime when the Communists attempted to impose the same philosophy on South Korea.

Peter Hazelton

of their discussions concerning the future of the monarchy, Mrs Vlachos says she plans to reopen Kathimerini, the semi-weekly newspaper founded by her grandfather, which closed when the colon imposed censorship. "I will stay in London for some time and it is not easy to duce at short notice the kind of paper I have in mind."

**Quiet weekend**

Helen Vlachos, the Athens publisher who made London her home for the last seven years, has joined the rush of Greek expatriates going back to enjoy the democratic spring in Greece. She flew out to spend what she called "a quiet weekend" with family and friends. "My mother started arriving for the last 10 months. She gathers the heads—the things that children blow from near their homes in the Ashdown Forest, then they are with a thin covering of soil."

They are, he says, extraordinarily quick to germinate. They start to appear above the ground about six days after planting, and in a fortnight they have reached a height of three inches. It is at this stage that the leaves are killed. They are then left to rot in the soil. They are then planted again. In July they bloom again.

Mrs Vlachos returned to the penthouse flat in which the colonels locked her up in September, 1967. It was from this apartment that after three months in confinement she fled the country in disguise. In London her home served as a meeting place for a democratic family and ex-King Constantine and his wife were frequent visitors.

**What can pensioners hope to get from Mrs Castle?**

A spate of White Papers is due to flood out of HMSO in the next few weeks. Some of them will undoubtedly have an eye on the electoral main chance, and among them is expected to be a paper on Mrs Barbara Castle's replacement for Sir Keith Joseph's pension plan which she unveiled last May.

What kind of scheme is Mrs Castle likely to come up with? How should it be judged? A fair way to start would be to measure the proposals against the objectives which Mrs Castle has set for herself. The most important of these is to remove today's pensioners from means-tested supplementary benefits. The most direct way of meeting this objective would be to raise the present pension rate to a level at which supplementary benefits would be unnecessary.

Mrs Castle has of course already raised the flat-rate pension this year and has linked future reviews to the index of national average earnings. This has not removed anyone from supplementary benefits since the level of supplementary benefits was raised simultaneously. It seems unlikely that she will travel further along this road, for the simple reason that increases have to be paid for on the nail and it would be electorally unpopular to threaten a further increase of national insurance contributions before the current increase has been fully digested.

It is more probable that the promise will be honoured by introducing a system of earnings-related benefits built up over a period. In this way the cost increase will probably be deferred until at least 1977 (such a scheme could start) and it will build up slowly because the benefits themselves will also build up slowly. There can be good economic arguments for adopting this gradual build up, as private pension schemes do. It must be realized, however, that it would not nothing to lift the present generation of pensioners above supplementary benefits level. To their credit, the trade unions have recently been most conscious of the need to look after today's pensioners. If they continue on this line it is doubtful whether they could tolerate for long a State scheme which would look like an excuse for doing nothing for those whose need was most urgent.

We may safely expect Mrs Castle to ensure that there will be no inferiority of treatment for women—will be met. Actual equality of treatment for both sexes is unlikely, since this would either entail reducing the retirement age for men to 60 (probably expensive) or raising the age for women to 65 (unlikely to attract many female votes). One might reasonably expect a continuation of the present situation where equal benefits are paid from different ages, which means that most of the money is devoted to benefits for women.

The third objective, protecting pensions against inflation, is likely to present the most difficult problem, since the Treasury seems to fear that index-linking could have the effect of creating a built-in

**South Korea: No sign of the democracy that so many men died for**

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Like thousands of their American comrades, 670 British soldiers were killed and another 2,690 were reported missing or wounded in three years of conflict. But the Communists were driven back to the 38th parallel and an alternative government under the late Mr Syngman Rhee was reinstated in Seoul.

And now, 21 years after that bloody conflict, many American and British observers are beginning to believe that perhaps those young men sacrificed their lives in vain. For in terms of democratic values and political freedom, there now is little to differentiate between the North Korean totalitarian regime in Seoul and the totalitarian communist system in North Korea.

During the past six months President Park, who apparently fears that his government will be overthrown by a popular uprising, has systematically crushed the last vestiges of democracy in Korea to repress any form of criticism.

Using the bogey of North Korea as a pretext to suppress demands for restoration of democratic rights, the regime has issued emergency decrees which threaten anyone who criticizes the President or his self-imposed constitution with death or imprisonment. Thousands of dissident students, intellectuals and Christian leaders have been arrested and President Park's political opponents have been brought before secret military tribunals on what appear to be questionable charges that they attempted to assist a communist-inspired uprising this year.

More than 60 persons have been arrested on charges that they attempted to encourage students to stage an uprising in April to establish a communist government. They include South Korea's former President, Poon Yung, a 77-year-old democrat, and a Roman Catholic bishop, Daniel Chi Hui Sun, a devoted Christian who was previously persecuted by the Japanese and the Communists in North Korea.

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**The Times Diary**  
**Backing Britain's Gerald Ford**

"The whole area of individual freedom of choice is terribly important under the surface. I have ordinary people in the street coming up and asking me: 'They are communists really, aren't they?' People have the feeling that is the way things are going."

A Lancashire candidate said: "I thought 'who rules?' would last for a week last time, and sure enough then it broadened out to a whole variety of issues which we were not prepared for. This time we will be able to go back and argue it rationally." Others agreed, but one said: "It will be a lot more difficult to generate the enthusiasm this time. Last time I myself felt the issue was one of great urgency. Now things may actually be worse, but people will not have the same interest." Another said a low poll might help him, but television broadcasts should be severely limited: otherwise people will get turned off completely.

Several of the candidates did not like voters much. "I had six friends come down to canvass for me, who hadn't done anything like that before. Without exception they all said their day on the doorsteps was the biggest argument they could imagine for dictatorship, because you just get so many contradictions and nonsense."

Many were going without holidays: "I have not had one

**Pointer**

The staid house journal of the Royal Astronomical Society, *The Observatory*, has recently published its thousandth issue, which is marked with a series of spoof articles parodying heavy-weight scientific papers. One of the pastiches, by a fluke of mock astrology, managed to pre-

**Quiet weekend**

How to turn a tax cut into a price increase. An Indian restaurant in London's West End, which includes VAT in its menu prices, "had a note on the card saying: 'For take away service, deduct 10 per cent VAT.' Now the 10 has been crossed out, and an eight substituted."

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## MODERNIZING CHARITIES

Healey's proposals on gifts last week included assurance that bequests and gifts to charity will be treated no less generously than they are today. Charities may be forgiven for waiting to applaud until the details have been announced, for the proposals have not shown themselves unduly sympathetic to their interests. The decision to set the rate at zero for VAT, while Labour has declined to reverse that decision, is a step in the right direction, but they were not conceded a reduced rate that they had previously enjoyed when it was 10% (a decision that was only reversed this month, after energetic lobbying).

At the same time, charities are suffering more than most from the state of the economy. Inflation has increased the cost of services and rents and also made public much less willing to give. Charities have seen their income drastically reduced. In the future of things, the organizations that suffer most from declining contributions tend to be those that serve unappealing or fashionable causes where sources of aid are few.

Among these more immediate problems, the long-standing one over what the function of charity should be in a modern society has been revived. Recent changes in several of the campaign bodies which had seemed to be opening up new scope for activity within the charities law have been indicative of uncertainty and confusion. The inquiry which Lord Goodman is to carry out for the National Council of Social Service should find plenty to say on the law that regulates charities. The law that regulates charities dates back to 1601 and in part to 1901, and both its form and its application need re-examination. It begins with the fact that charities are not charities. The 1960 Act gave the Charity Commissioners the power to steer the innumerable and often obsolete small

trusts into more effective groupings. Some rationalization has occurred, but there are still more than 100,000 organizations, a quarter of them with annual incomes of less than ten pounds. A seven-year review of charities by Oxfordshire (one of the few local authorities to use its powers in this respect) ended recently in almost complete failure and accusations that the commissioners were no longer interested in encouraging mergers.

It is true that too much official pressure can threaten the spontaneity which is essential to charitable activity, but there is still plenty of scope for active guidance, not only in parish bequests to provide stockings for serving-boys, but also in the national field where rival bodies sometimes compete wastefully for the same job. At the same time, although there is little evidence of malpractice or gross inefficiency among charities, the arrangements for the scrutiny of accounts and prevention of incompetence are not entirely satisfactory. Even the ground rules for the working of trusts were bitterly attacked during last year's dispute in Shelter, on the ground that they made it difficult for paid staff to have a say in policy-making.

Lord Goodman's chief problem will be the old question of what should count officially as a charity. In spite of VAT, the tax concessions for registered organizations are still extremely valuable. But they are enjoyed by some whose purposes bear little resemblance to common ideas of what is charitable, and denied to others that would generally be felt to contribute at least as much to the public good. The decision, which effectively rests with the commissioners, depends on a remarkable analogy erected upon an enactment of 1601. Nobody is satisfied with it, but nobody has been able to suggest anything better.

Educational activities qualify, and political activities do not. But it is impossible to draw a

clear line between public utility and propaganda, and some social evils are inevitably best countered by pressing to change the law. Some charities are bolder in sailing close to the wind than others (Shelter, for instance, made no secret of its attitude to the new Rent Act while it was being debated), and some get round the difficulty by the cumulative use of small, one to one, separate organizations, one to campaign, one to dispense aid. The commissioners are reasonably tolerant of all this. The chief injustice is to bodies like Amnesty and the United Nations Association, which have never been able to achieve registration.

The difficulty is that society cannot be expected to provide major tax advantages to advance ends that are altogether out of sympathy with prevailing attitudes. But a characteristic field for charitable activity is where society has not acknowledged that it should provide a service itself: that implies a pioneering, controversial element. The task of evolving a formula that would prevent the first, accept the second and yet not be overturned by changes in public attitudes, is extremely hard. The Charity Law Reform Society recently suggested in effect that the tax concessions should be available to all bodies whose funds were prevented from being used for private profit, even political parties. But there might be objections to public support for the National Front or International Marxist Group. Lord Beveridge suggested long ago that aid should come not from tax relief but from grants dispensed by a national committee. That might allow judgments to be made with a greater element of discretion, but is otherwise unattractive. It is important that any solution should command wide acceptance, and that we should not unwittingly replace one over-rigid system with another.

The student movement that contributed to Syngman Rhee's downfall in 1960 became active last year in face of repression and has now been silenced by the new laws and by the brutal methods with which the Korean CIA is associated. Protest has come from many other quarters. Leaders of the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches are regarded as suspect, naturally enough for their loyalties are not to be dragged so easily as President Park might wish. World protest has sufficed to save Mr Kim Chi Ha, the poet, from a death penalty but many other writers and intellectuals suffer as their like have done throughout the history of Confucian authoritarian rule. Witness China, at any time in the past or now.

Anxiety has been growing in the United States at what has been happening. The American troops still maintained in Korea are psychologically the most important part of the support President Park's Government still enjoys from Washington. In Japan protest has grown ever since the abduction in Tokyo a year ago of Mr Kim Dae Jung, the South Korean Opposition leader, who has still not been allowed to leave Korea. The forthcoming United Nations general assembly, when the question of North and South Korea will come up again, may lie behind the South Korean Government's anxieties. They are certainly not likely to win support by their present methods.

Both these circumstances and those of the child in Holloway are quite desperate situations in children's residential provision: the proper facilities do not at present exist in sufficient quantity or of the right quality. There are insufficient staff and the current rates of pay for the most overworked job of looking after difficult adolescents are quite unrealistic.

The status of the job must be recognized, new scales of pay negotiated and more capital released to provide up-to-date buildings: if this is necessary, the situation will deteriorate still further and more and more children will get placed in Holloway or what a number of my colleagues believe may happen—some dreadful incident will happen involving one of the young people being returned to the community when he should have been placed in residential care. There is constant comment in the press about this situation—when will the authorities do something?

Yours sincerely,  
GIVEN GRANT,  
Whitby, North Yorkshire.  
24 Denham Lane,  
Chalfont St Peter,  
Buckinghamshire.

### Rubbish overboard

From Mr R. D. A. Maurice

Sir, Mr. Brenton's letter (Aug 8) reminded me of a somewhat similar occasion many years ago when I was crossing the Channel on one of the British Rail steamers—I cannot remember its name.

I had taken a sandwich lunch with me and after putting the apple peelings and other rubbish carefully into a paper bag, I wandered along the deck trying to find a waste container and failing went up to a member of the crew asking him "Please can you tell me where there is a waste container?" He replied: "Overboard mate, the biggest dustbin in the world."

Yours faithfully,  
D. MAURICE,  
9 Wheat Knoll,  
Kenley, Surrey.

## The relative cost of housing

From Mr W. J. H. Toombs

Sir, The House of Commons Select Committee on Housing (August 5) about housing subsidies, to which you gave prominence, contains some truths, it also contains omissions, half-truths, untruths and mis-statements to which the attention of readers should be drawn.

The key question today is what is the relative cost of different ways of doing the nation's housing stock. At present, each new council house costs over £1,000 a year in subsidy from rates and taxes. Each new private house costs about £300 a year in tax relief. Moreover, if council house rents are to be frozen, this difference will continue indefinitely. Even if they rise at the full rate of inflation, which currently seems unlikely, owner-occupation will still offer a saving to the Exchequer, as well as a wider distribution of wealth.

What is therefore urgently needed is to find ways of enabling those with lower incomes to buy their own homes. This can be done, even without subsidy, through forms of fixed-proportion-of-income mortgages, or low-start mortgages. The Housing Research Foundation will shortly be publishing an important report on this topic.

Mr Kilroy's figures relate to the existing stock of houses and are largely irrelevant for the future. But in any event his comparison of the subsidy given to council tenants with tax relief given to owner-occupiers is wrong.

He has divided the total subsidy to tenants of houses and not now being subsidized, whereas he divides the tax relief to owner-occupiers by the much smaller number currently with a mortgage, forgetting that nearly half of owner-occupiers have no mortgage. The latest correct figures are about £30 a day for each council tenant and a little over £55 for each owner-occupier.

Council tenants also obtain much more aid from supplementary benefits for housing so that, in total, aid to council tenants is well over twice that given to owner-occupiers even if tax relief is regarded as a subsidy. This may be thought to be socially right. Council tenants are, on average, poorer than owner-occupiers, although they are also on average wealthier than private tenants.

Another inaccuracy by Mr Kilroy is his reference to land accounting for 30 to 40 per cent of housing costs in the south-east of England. Last year this was certainly true, but today land can be bought for half of that price, so the figure is less than that. This is a welcome change.

There is no reason why any political party should be emotionally attached to any form of tenure. After all, a Labour Government White Paper in 1965 said "The expansion of the public programme now proposed is to meet essential needs; it is born partly of a short-term necessity, partly of the conditions inherent in modern urban life. The expansion of building for owner-occupation, on the other hand, is normal; it reflects a long-term social advance which should gradually permeate every region."

That objective can be reached more quickly if we take the right decisions now.

Yours faithfully,  
W. J. H. TOOMBS,  
The Housing Research Foundation,  
58 Portland Place, W1,  
August 9.

## Children in detention

From Mr John Dixon

Sir, I note from *The Times* of August 6 a news item about a child of 14 kept in Holloway because he was not nowhere else suitable. I am not surprised. The other day I chaired the regular meeting of the Board of Management of the Royal Philanthropic—a community home and assessment centre for boys, most of whom had appeared before the juvenile courts.

It was revealed that in the last six months it had been impossible to find appropriate places for no less than 67 boys out of a total of 220. This 67 had been returned in most cases to their parents or to the care of their relatives before the Courts in the first place or returned to families which had rejected them. How many of all the other boys dealt with were satisfactorily placed is conjectural.

Both these circumstances and those of the child in Holloway are quite desperate situations in children's residential provision: the proper facilities do not at present exist in sufficient quantity or of the right quality. There are insufficient staff and the current rates of pay for the most overworked job of looking after difficult adolescents are quite unrealistic.

The status of the job must be recognized, new scales of pay negotiated and more capital released to provide up-to-date buildings: if this is necessary, the situation will deteriorate still further and more and more children will get placed in Holloway or what a number of my colleagues believe may happen—some dreadful incident will happen involving one of the young people being returned to the community when he should have been placed in residential care. There is constant comment in the press about this situation—when will the authorities do something?

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN DIXON,  
St John's College,  
Redhill, Surrey,  
August 6.

## Using public records

From Mr H. M. Colvin

Sir, You announce that the Public Record Office is closed because of an internal dispute over the searching of readers' cars and hand-bags. It is difficult to believe that this is necessary. If cars and hand-bags cannot be searched then why cannot readers be admitted who choose to leave these impediments at home? Pencil, paper and a railway ticket are all that most of us need to use the public records now denied to us.

Yours faithfully,  
H. M. COLVIN,  
St John's College,  
Oxford,  
August 7.

## The Opposition and labour relations

From Mr James Prior, Conservative MP for Lowestoft

Sir, It looks as though Mr Michael Foot intends to organize a campaign of systematic and deliberate misrepresentation of the nature and effects of the Opposition's amendments to the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act.

Two myths in particular are being fostered. The first is that the House of Lords is alone responsible for the crucial amendments—the "antics" of the "comic old nobility" as Mr Foot describes the Lords votes, with his usual respect for the parliamentary process. The second myth is that the Opposition's amendments are—in the words of Mr Hugh Scanlon—the "height of wanton destructiveness."

The fact is that—as was dramatically demonstrated in the episode of the "Lever vote"—the voting on these amendments at the Report stage in the House of Commons was extremely and unusually narrow. The House of Lords cannot therefore be criticised for giving the Commons the opportunity to reconsider them.

The result was that the amendments were finally adopted by a majority of the votes of the elected representatives of the people in the House of Commons; and in the end each of these successful amendments was carried with the support of one or more of the other Opposition parties in the House of Commons. Mr Foot should accept the fact that his is a minority Government, and that his party did not win a mandate in the February, 1974, general election for fundamental alterations in the balance of our traditional labour law.

At the same time there is also wide agreement that the principle of collective action expressed in closed shop agreements must be balanced by another principle: that of the rights and liberties of individuals.

Mr Foot conceived as much as he is priding in his Bill for objections to joining a trade union in a closed shop on "grounds of religious belief" and by indicating in his initial Consultative Statement on the Bill that he intended to provide safeguards against arbitrary exclusion or expulsion from a union.

The question is not whether a balance should be struck between these two principles—even Mr Scanlon presumably agrees that there

must be a balance. Rather, the question is where and how this balance is to be struck. And here the majority in the House of Commons has voted for a balance which is most favourable to the liberties of individuals than that preferred by the Government and by some of the more powerful trade unions.

The effect of the Opposition amendments is not to frustrate the principle of the closed shop. What they do is, first, to lay down the safeguards against arbitrary exclusion or expulsion from a union which Mr Foot himself said that he intended to lay down. And second, there shall be no dismissal, but that compensation for unfair dismissal should be paid to an employee who is dismissed for refusing to join the relevant union in a closed shop, (1) when he refuses on grounds of conscience to belong to any union, or (2) when he has a "reasonable grounds" for refusing to belong to the particular union in question, or (3) when he is a member of another "appropriate" trade union. (This last point is a matter of particular importance to the press.)

Whatever Mr Foot may think, each of these concepts of "conscience," "reasonableness" and "appropriateness" is perfectly capable of being filled out in the case law of the Industrial Tribunals as they deal with complaints for unfair dismissal.

So this is what Mr Scanlon thinks to be "the height of wanton destructiveness": the provision of safeguards against arbitrary and unreasonable treatment of individuals by unions, and the provision of compensation to an employee who is dismissed for refusing to join a union on grounds of conscience or because he is a member of another "appropriate" trade union. If Mr Scanlon really thinks that this is destructive, it is not merely looking for excuses in breaching the "social contract"—he must have a very curious scale of values.

We in the Conservative Party have been honestly striving to reach a settlement of the damaging and divisive question of the structure of our industrial relations law. The Trade Union and Labour Relations Act in its amended form has the support of all sections of opinion in the House of Commons, and we believe that it should now be taken as the foundation of a new and lasting trade union organization and on the legal framework in collective bargaining. Accordingly we have indicated that we do not intend further legislation in these areas.

I am sure that moderate opinion in all parties will approve this determination to help the country to turn the page and to open a new chapter.

Yours etc,  
JIM PRIOR,  
House of Commons,  
August 11.

## State shipyards

From Mr W. K. Purdie

Sir, Mr Iain M. Stewart's letter (August 6) might also have said that when Upper Clyde Shipbuilders went into liquidation their order book stood at £300 million. The current state of order books is being offered as an argument against nationalization, when experience shows that it bears no relevance to the viability of a shipbuilding company.

Additionally, since shipbuilding is to a large extent an assembly industry, the fate of many secondary suppliers was linked to the UCS crisis since they were the ultimate victims of the cash flow ineptitude. Surely the survival of such companies is important.

It is worth recording that, at the same time as the Fairfield experiment, Vickers Naval Yard on Tyne was under liquidation because of MBO (management by objectives) as an effort to inject some of the basic recommendations of the Geddes Report. As soon as it showed signs of success the yard was sold out without any consultation with senior management or workers. The exercise was summarily terminated and a number of careers ruined.

The reason was that traditional shipbuilding management were terrified of change and like UCS saw nationalization as the solution. Since this exercise indicated an absence of either sensitivity or common courtesy it is a waste of time blaming retroactive management for conduct which to them seems normal. At the same time can they really continue to ignore the fact of evidence of independent investigations?

The Geddes Commission on Industrial Relations, and the Booz-Allen reports on shipbuilding and the PA report on ship repairing cannot all be totally wrong. Has the industry no reason to question its own actions? If so why doesn't it attract adequate risk capital? The answer, and the consequences, are obvious and inevitable.

Yours,  
W. K. PURDIE,  
Bryn Derwen,  
West Street, Marlow,  
Bucks,  
August 6.

## Pharmacists' earnings

From Mr Joseph Wright

Sir, Mrs J. E. Walton (August 7) was so right in referring to the un-economic returns from dispensing prescriptions. The inadequate NHS remuneration of pharmacists is undoubtedly reflected in figures recently issued by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain relating to pharmacy closures which show that of 454 pharmacies which closed in Britain in 1972, 38 per cent were closed because they were un-economic. The position in 1973 was only fractionally better (or worse) with 455 pharmacies closed, nearly 35 per cent for economic reasons.

The advent of health centres and group practices, in which doctors are much less accessible and often overzealously guarded by receptionists, has led not only to a more impersonal service being offered by doctors but also to an increase in calls by patients on the pharmacist for advice.

The personal and professional service that the pharmacist offers is being placed in jeopardy by inadequate remuneration and, in

many areas, by doctors dispensing their own medicines. The latter is surely usurping the primary function of the pharmacist throughout the country and any spread of this unfortunate tendency, regardless of "bare foot" necessity, must ultimately bring the very reason for the existence of the pharmacist into real and—from the viewpoint of the public—serious question.

The Central Committee has lodged a claim for an increase in remuneration on behalf of chemists in England and Wales. The claim is supported by representative facts and figures and not by threats and the withdrawal of service. It is hoped that the Secretary of State for Social Security will speedily accept that claim. Otherwise pharmacies will continue to close down and more and more of the public will realize the truth of the saying "you don't miss the water until the tap runs dry."

Yours faithfully,  
J. WRIGHT, Secretary, Central NHS (Chemist Contractors) Committee,  
Malthouse House,  
321 Chase Road, N14,  
August 7.

As such it is particularly valued in areas where all information sources are controlled to serve the purposes of the current government and trustworthy information is a distinct rarity. Free information could continue to flow without putting the government in an embarrassing position with either party.

Yours sincerely,  
N. J. YOUNG,  
684 Lamberthorne,  
Hesse 6,  
Siegfriedstrasse 4,  
July 29.

These events demonstrate the continued world-wide reputation of the BBC as a source of truth and objectivity, free of Government control. As such it is particularly valued in areas where all information sources are controlled to serve the purposes of the current government and trustworthy information is a distinct rarity. Free information could continue to flow without putting the government in an embarrassing position with either party.

Yours faithfully,  
N. J. YOUNG,  
684 Lamberthorne,  
Hesse 6,  
Siegfriedstrasse 4,  
July 29.

The Central Committee has lodged a claim for an increase in remuneration on behalf of chemists in England and Wales. The claim is supported by representative facts and figures and not by threats and the withdrawal of service. It is hoped that the Secretary of State for Social Security will speedily accept that claim. Otherwise pharmacies will continue to close down and more and more of the public will realize the truth of the saying "you don't miss the water until the tap runs dry."

## The fight against terrorism

From Lord Hunt of Llanfair Waterdine

Sir, I hope that Mr Justin Evans, as an old friend, will forgive me for commenting publicly, if you will allow me, on his letter in yesterday's (August 7) *Times* on the subject of combating terrorism. Clearly, there is a need for unflinching public debate, but I feel sure, no hasty action on this crucial matter.

I would surmise that Mr Evans parodies rather than paraphrases accurately the views of "advanced" penologists by stating, on their behalf, that punishment in whatever form or degree has virtually no effect on any sort of crime. But in disagreeing with such a view, by whomsoever it may be held, he is leading up to his contention that capital punishment should be reintroduced as one further measure in the fight (or "war") against terrorism in this country.

He bases his case on the human instincts of anger and disgust and he strongly contests Bernard Levin's view that such instincts do not offer a guide to action. He claims that capital punishment for acts of terrorism or for conspiracy in such acts would receive overwhelming public support, if elicited by a referendum or in an election campaign.

I have great respect for Mr Evans's lucidity of thought. Like almost everyone else I share his feelings of anger and disgust when these heinous crimes are committed and I agree about his forecast of the public mood and will. But other considerations must also be aired in order to arrive at a sound conclusion in the continuing debate. We are a few thoughts:

First, the effects of punishment on crime must be measured by research and adduced as evidence, rather than based on instinct influenced by emotion. Research into the effect of abolishing capital punishment for certain categories of murder, later, for all murders, may be said to be inconclusive. The lack of clear indications that it has been a cause of increasing the incidence of murder was an important consideration in the decision by Parliament in 1970 to prolong abolition indefinitely.

Second, terrorism for political ends falls into quite a different order of crime than other murders. There is no adequate or valid basis for research into the effect of capital punishment to combat such acts in Britain, and I agree that such evidence elsewhere. In the past, we can refer to the British handling of terrorism in Palestine, Cyprus, Bengal and, in particular, Ireland. Currently, there are several sources for study in other countries. My own reading of history, supported by some personal involvement in Bengal in the thirties, does not encourage me to urge haste in imposing the extreme penalty.

Third, and following this latter point, it is a cardinal tenet of the conduct of war, not to be lured into playing the enemy's game. Bombing, hijacking and other foul and despicable acts are not, as Mr Evans avers, committed "for purposes of terrorism"; they are terrorist acts for the purpose of political ends. They are intended, inter alia, to provoke just such a reaction as Mr Evans and all decent minded people feel, and to induce the action Mr Evans advocates: to produce greater martyrs, gain further support for the ideal or "cause" for which the campaign is being waged by the minorities involved.

Some such crimes are intended to push the boundaries of what is morally minded people beyond the edge of tolerance and into the strait-jacket of some form of police state. To be fair, there are some "causes" in aid of which war is being waged against society at large which are just causes and this by no means justifies the means employed to attain them.

I do not deny that the point could be reached when we may have no alternative than to fight the terrorists the way they want us to fight. I understand the argument that it may be possible to crush terrorism with the additional weapon of capital punishment, although I have grave doubts on the matter. But it is crucially important for the time being to keep our cool and not be swayed by anger or emotion. This is a matter for Parliament, taking full account of the public mood, but also these other objective and strategic considerations. Referenda and the heat of the hustings are emphatically not the way.

Yours truly,  
JOHN HUNT,  
Highway Cottage, Aston,  
Near Henley on Thames,  
Oxfordshire.

## Rule by power groups

From Mr S. Walter Butterworth

Sir, Lord Chalfont's sobering contribution (August 5) reminds me that King John probably resented the "ironmasters" taking over Runnymede against his sovereign power. I have no doubt that Charles didn't like his head being cut off a few centuries later.

The nobility and gentry ran the country for a long time until the industrial revolution. Then the "ironmasters" took over. Now we find that the "National Union of Mineworkers" brought down the government of the day.

I see no reason for alarm. Our so-called "democracy" has never been democratic. We have always been governed by power groups. All we are experiencing now is a slightly different power group. "Plus ça change..." We shall get by as we have always done.

Yours hopefully,  
S. WALTER BUTTERWORTH,  
16 Glen Chess,  
Loudwater Lane,  
Rickmansworth, Herts.  
August 6.

## This season's Proms

From Mr A. H. Barnes

Sir, Would anyone agree that the Proms this season have been for many years the least enjoyable? The new ideas may be acceptable to the intelligent promenade. But it is not his tickets that pay the piper.

Yours faithfully,  
A. H. BARNES,  
38 Montague Road,  
Richmond, Surrey.

## SOUTH KOREA'S UNJUSTIFIED REPRESSION

world where so much suffering comes to notice from material cause of liberty and representative government is less likely to be given the first priority. But it is a cause that deserves support wherever liberty is brutally crushed. In South Korea economic advance over the decade has by most computers been successful and education has expanded to match it. It is all the more reason to ask the screws of political oppression have been tightened so there. The record of President Park Chung Hee's treatment is as bad as any in non-communist world: it is on the facing page by our correspondent, Mr Hazel-

course it is justifiable to ask in Korea's case the same as that has so readily been asked out by every military power elsewhere in Asia: that country is not suited to democracy and that a spell of military discipline is right. Indeed in Korea's plea may be reinforced: it is not merely the lack of democratic tradition and a recent fumbling in the work of a democratic system, it is a very strong tradition in Korea of a precisely con- siderable authoritarianism and an absorbed and practised area for many centuries past. A western mind, habituated to a division of authority that existed for so long between church and State, the omni-

## dring mental illness

Dr John Le Gassick

William Sargant's interesting article in your issue of July 30 over some of the problems in recent-day treatment of the mentally ill. It is true that a large number of long-stay patients in the old mental hospitals need to be there if there was suitable residential accommodation in the community. But this is not to say there is no longer any need for an asylum type of treatment, speak

of us who work in these old asylums are only too well aware that there are still patients being treated to whom who, in spite of improvements in physical treatments and community facilities, will still treatment in a mental hospital or the rest of their lives. In a nation of about a million people are, perhaps, about 25 such people being admitted to mental hospitals each year. These people continue to need skilled nursing for an indefinite period, in spite of the appearance of new hospital units for the treatment of the mentally ill and the reduction of the number of patients in old mental hospitals. I know of no instance in which it has been possible to close a mental hospital. These hospitals were built in Victorian times when the mentally ill who found way into workhouses.

the word "asylum" was first used in its charitable sense, ie. a place where the mentally ill were treated. When these hospitals were overcrowded because of development at the turn of the century the word fell into disuse and in many ways this is unfortunate. Many patients still a sanctuary and to try and them by community methods is putting them in hostels or

boarding them out or making them attend day hospitals is inappropriate for their needs although it looks attractive. Dr Sargant suggests that consultants on the staff of these old mental hospitals get involved in commitments outside their hospital because of the depressing atmosphere inside them and therefore long-stay patients are denied proper rehabilitation. I have some experience of psychiatric hospitals in North East England and I would like to point out that this does not happen here.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN LE GASSICK,  
27 Kings Avenue,  
Morpeth,  
Northumberland.

## Patient and doctor

From Dr Gwen Grant

Sir, It is with surprise and regret that I read the letters from Mr C. W. S. Morris and Mr A. M. Gordhanas (August 1). Like Professor Allen (July 29), my family and I were "expelled" from a group practice because I had a disagreement with one member. Fortunately, we are rarely ill and so far we have not found that the scruples which applied to us as NHS patients have prevented our treatment as private patients.

I am a scientist—a biologist—and prefer therefore to avoid those doctors who like your correspondents demand "faith" as a condition of treatment. There are other doctors who consider medicine a branch of applied science and these are the ones I wish to consult. However, as the National Health Service is constructed I have no choice and, even if I did, difficulty in identify-

ing those persons whose judgment and attitudes I would prefer. A serious fault in the NHS lies, I think, in the method of payment. A GP sees a critical argumentative patient as someone for whom he receives a paltry sum a year and with whom he is not prepared to bother. The patient sees a man who behaves as if he were handing out official charity—"Take that my good man and be grateful."

It is much easier for both to appreciate money paid for work actually done and I think the NHS needs a more realistic attitude to payment—salaries or consultation fees.

Yours sincerely,  
GWEN GRANT,  
Whitby, North Yorkshire.

## Rubbish overboard

From Mr R. D. A. Maurice

Sir, Mr. Brenton's letter (Aug 8) reminded me of a somewhat similar occasion many years ago when I was crossing the Channel on one of the British Rail steamers—I cannot remember its name.

I had taken a sandwich lunch with me and after putting the apple peelings and other rubbish carefully into a paper bag, I wandered along the deck trying to find a waste container and failing went up to a member of the crew asking him "Please can you tell me where there is a waste container?" He replied: "Overboard mate, the biggest dustbin in the world."

Yours faithfully,  
D. MAURICE,  
9 Wheat Knoll,  
Kenley, Surrey.







# CI chairman sees 'great angers' in state intervention



that while over the same 10-year period, average raw material prices had increased by 80 per

and there was a good deal to be done in ICI—although he believed the group had demonstrated its competence in running the business.

He made no attempt to hide the fact that he still supports the use of wages and prices

International bankers are concerned that the Department of Energy's plans for giving the state majority stakes in North-Sea oilfields is complicating the task of judging the British economy's ability to handle a huge rise in overseas indebtedness against the security of North Sea oil.

He said that the unions had great respect for the integrity of Mr Ford, adding that Mr Ford was conservative and that

US car crisis gamble, page 17

Applications	\$306.3m	Allocated	£150m
Bids at	£97.20	Received	83%
Prev week			
Average rate	£97.19%	Received	35%
	£11.2215%	Prev week	
Next Friday			£11.2279%
	£150m	Replace	£60m



# GROW TREES

## & PROPERTY

ues is critical and can experienced sources.

NYSE comments: "The  
's weakness during the  
quarter was a major factor  
ducing foreign enthusiasm  
United States corporate  
es."

the basis of the survey,  
NYSE estimates that total  
ission earnings by all  
er companies from foreign

He made no attempt to hide the fact that he still supports the use of wages and prices

In Congress, Democrats appear to support the idea, but they are pressing for some change in the tax system, to ensure that the least wealthy obtain some relief from the policies of monetary and fiscal restraint and the record level of inflation.

He said that the unions had great respect for the integrity of Mr Ford, adding that Mr Ford was conservative and that

**US car crisis gamble, page 17**

Bids 21	\$97.20	Received 33%
Prev Week		
	\$97.19%	Received 35%
Average rate		Prev week
	\$11.2215%	\$11.2279%
Next Friday		
	\$150m	Replace \$260m

He made no attempt to hide the fact that he still supports the use of wages and prices

In Congress, Democrats appear to support the idea, but they are pressing for some change in the tax system, to ensure that the least wealthy obtain some relief from the policies of monetary and fiscal restraint and the record level of inflation.

Some of the most significant comments on the present situation and the policies of Mr Ford were given before the Nixon resignation by Mr George Meany, the president of the 14-million member AFL-CIO trade union organization.

price controls is the same as it was years ago. We have no objections to equitable controls, but we do object to controlling wages and not controlling interest rates, not controlling dividends, not controlling every last item that goes into this structure, not controlling in-

The Bank of England's minimum lending rate is unchanged this week at 11½ per cent. The following are the results of Friday's Treasury bill tender:

Applications	£306.3m	Allocated	£150m
Bids at	£97.20	Received	£135m
Prev Week	£97.19 ½	Received	36%
Average rate	£11.2215	Prev week	£11.2279 ½
Next Friday			





# Management

## Fruitful participation in industry

The surge of activity to be seen on all sides throughout Europe towards industrial democracy and more participative methods in management, could contribute substantially to a more productive and happier industry in Britain. But we must stay the enthusiasm from killing it with kindness. With the best of intentions and the worst of understandings, public figures and presumed authorities have raised expectations to such a high level that disillusionment is becoming inevitable. An MP said recently that the establishment of Works Councils would release "a tidal wave of enthusiasm for work at the shop floor level". Such ecstasy does more harm than good; it needs to be tempered by the realities of the limitations and difficulties of participative methods.

I believe in the value of the industrial democracy cause, especially in terms of its effects on more output, lower costs, less absenteeism, etc.—that is, the practical results on which its survival will depend, no matter how desirable it may be politically or philosophically. Because of my belief in its value, I set out the rules of warning in the hope that an understanding of relative strengths and weaknesses will do more to further the cause than the blindly extravagant claims we have been hearing.

The first reason for belief in "worker participation" seems to be that a man has the right to have a say in the affairs of the company he works for, in the same way that through a democratic political system he has a say in the affairs of his country or local community.

But the purpose of the two bodies, the company and the community, are widely different. To oversimplify, the Government or council is there to serve the people, while the company can only serve the people if it survives and succeeds first as a business, profitably providing goods or services to customers.

The rights to have a say in these two cases are by no means identical. Participation in community affairs is universal and a right if democracy means anything at all, whereas participation in industry can only develop if it contributes clearly to a more effective company. Of course one rubs off on the other, but we must be careful in speaking of "democratic rights" in the industrial setting.

Perhaps the biggest problem of participative management is the constraint it places on strong individual leadership, although determined single-minded leaders are by no means universally successful, examples of their value are easy to find, and although theoretically it is possible for the truly democratic leader to be strong while still allowing participation, this is extremely difficult in practice.

It is misleading to blur the

autocratic-democratic balance which has to be struck; a move one way can only be made at the cost of the other. For example, to listen to others simply in order to be seen to be listening is not democracy but hypocrisy; the truly democratic leader must listen, digest, adjust his line accordingly, decide for himself and then explain his action. And if his personal decision is a minority one he has problems! Even if his decision is a majority one, he must cope with the minority.

The answer to the dilemma of achieving strong leadership in a climate of consensus decisions, could come from the ultimate realization that the establishment of leaders is essential for a group to survive and prosper. Primitive tribes and animal groups have been observed to appoint leaders and invest them with authority, because they know that otherwise they become chaotic and weakened as a group. This is particularly true in times of crisis. You do not form a committee when the place on fire. We may all learn this lesson in time.

Another source of confusion are the claims for results achieved from newly introduced participative methods, which can be innocently exaggerated. A similar thing happened when computers first became fashionable. Many were sold on the basis that the results after the computer would be better than

the results beforehand, forgetting the streamlining of clerical procedures done in preparing for the computer which alone would have produced the best part of the improvement without any computer at all.

The same thing can happen with the installation of participative procedures; they provide a catalyst for good management methods which should have been applied years ago, but the resultant success is attributed to the new participation. And later, when the result is not maintained through lack of understanding of its source, the blame just as falsely as it got there.

The participation cause is not helped by the definition of "workers" as being different from managers and directors. There are few owner-directors left today and by far the majority of "worker" staff in this country, including managers and directors, came up the hard way. Many of them work harder than the "workers". With increasing "single status" of the same working hours, conditions, benefits (if any), and increasing white collar unionism, these differences should grow less. Meanwhile we must be clear on the benefits to each of participation, with a respect for the rights of each employee, from top to bottom, doing his own job well.

Another problematical side effect is that participative

methods can cause premature commitment. Participation produces an additional flow of ideas for management to consider, and an additional obligation for management to do just this. A popular response is for management to set up a working party to look into the idea, since this can be seen by all and it avoids an immediate management decision. At the back of their minds they may be the thought that they can always say so. But in truth can they?

Finally, although it sounds obvious, it is necessary constantly to remember that every one cannot participate in everything. Participative methods cost time, paper and money, and at some point the advantages to be gained will not be worth the expenditure. In the case of the current surge of participation it takes courage to stand up and say "Let us be sensible; we cannot afford to have your contribution on this".

Fruitful participation in industry must begin with understanding and education, and this is the aim of these few notes. Treated realistically, we can all gain substantial benefits from this the most significant development in industrial thinking since the 1950s.

Brian P. Smith  
PA Management Consultants Limited

Edited by Rodney Cowton

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Raw deal for sugar farmers

From Mr James Aldous  
Sir, The shortage of sugar has become a matter of concern to the country. The world price reached £300 per ton on Friday of last week after being at £230 to £250 per ton for some months.

The Government talks about the shortage of supplies from the Caribbean and Mrs Williams the Minister of Agriculture, in a long-term contract for imported sugar at £110 or £115 per ton—surely a completely unrealistic hope.

No mention is made about the position of the British sugar beet grower, who produces one third of the sugar consumed in this country. I do not think the public realize that the production of British-grown sugar is being jeopardized by the Government.

The position is as follows: The British farmer is receiving only £102.04 per ton for raw sugar. This compares with the French grower's average price of £118.39 per ton. Costings produced in March from a number of farms in East Anglia showed that the cost of growing and harvesting sugar beet was £157.10 per acre and that the estimated return (based on the five-year average yield) was £151.26 per acre.

Since March costs have increased further on labour, because of threshold agreements, haulage to the factory, sprays, machinery replacements and wearing parts.

It is obvious that sugar beet growers will not be prepared to produce sugar at a loss and sell it at well under half the world price.

The only action Mr Peart seems to have taken since coming to office is to take away any chance of a grower obtaining a better price by permitting the introduction of what is termed a "B" quota for sugar beet.

This means that a grower who has good yields will not obtain the world price for the sugar beet he delivers in excess of his quota as he was able to last year.

If the Government is really interested in safeguarding sugar supplies, it must firstly increase the price paid to the grower for this year's crop to that of the French grower, and secondly give firm guarantees on the price of next year's crop before growers are expected to sign the 1975 contract.

If this is not done, the farmers will turn to other more lucrative crops and we as a country will have to buy an increasing

quantity of sugar on world markets at prices in excess of what it can be produced here. Yours faithfully,  
JAMES ALDOUS,  
Chesham Hall,  
Halesworth,  
Suffolk IP19 0AW.

From Mrs M. Wright  
Sir, How much more convenient and equitable it would be if some simple rationing could be devised to cope with present and future shortages.

I would suggest simply book of numbered, perforated stamps to be issued to individuals; instructions on their use could be given in newspapers, and before the book is issued, publishers "see headlines" about important shortages.

The present system of bag of sugar per shop (when there is any) is as a single person goes to a large family, busy mother, she has to find time to search the shops to find where the supplies are. Yours truly,  
M. WRIGHT,  
9 Nightingale Road,  
Rickmansworth,  
Hertfordshire.

### Government v management

From Mr Harry Ward  
Sir, Mr Brett's letter of 24th pleading that the Government cease its vendetta against managers needs further emphasis.

The late Sir Henry urged me continually to a to our large industrial concerns the dangers as long as 1952. His article in *Bank Review* in April of 1952 is carefully written well worth re-reading. Six long and deep experience really well informed are due.

Since the war all parties have explained the failure of their policies, blaming managers and management. It is a pity that attention from the inflation effects of government expenditure.

Sir Henry writes: "We not yet know whether employment is not a new for an old evil—inflation" comes to discover this fact. Companies must make for years ahead but change government policy every several times a year. It is distracted day by day their main job by political decisions.

No businessman can make an intelligent estimate what action Government take. Inter-union, ought to be solved in speedy way management and do solve their problem.

No one can suggest that intervention of Government our nationalized industries proves the quality of decisions.

Yours sincerely,  
HARRY WARD,  
4 Lindsay Close,  
Epsom,  
Surrey.

### 'Barber effect'

From Mr Peter Clarke  
Sir, Playing Monopoly in family we have come across phenomenon we have called 'Barber Effect'. When money increases the amount of money in circulation, either to specific players, or all participants, the price assets rises. This seems to simple and vivid illustration of Mr Powell's thesis on inflation.

Another simple demonstration of the 'Barber Effect' occurred in the Red Cross camps in Germany; the rency being the Red Cross cigarettes, the price of other commodities in the camp rose immediately with a change in the value of cigarettes.

I conclude that the inflation is a monetary phenomenon generated by the central bank, politically prompted creation of more currency in circulation.

Yours etc,  
PETER CLARKE,  
84 St George's Square,  
London, SW1.

### Housing sales

From Mr M. C. Ray  
Sir, I hear on "World at One" that the Government and the old builders are to set up a 35,000 completed houses, which mortgages are available to do not sell.

Is not this a case of setting up a committee to ascertain the price, which is that the price being set to fix too high?

There is a very simple way of selling every one of the houses, namely, to put them to auction without reserve. The true market values will be revealed.

Yours faithfully,  
M. C. RAY,  
Hillbury,  
Warren Road,  
Fairlight,  
Hastings,  
Sussex.

### Krugerrands and inflation

From Mr Peter Clarke  
Sir, I've noticed as a feature of inflation that my gold coins such as the Krugger rands are fortunate to own seen in the decline in value of money. Can it be then that inflation is simply a dilution of the money by the central bank?

Enoch Powell has argued that in other words it is not money that is falling. Yours etc,  
PETER CLARKE,  
37 Upper Street, London, N1 July 30.

### Using lower VAT rate to increase retail profits

From Mr Anthony Melnikoff  
Sir, In his mini-Budget, the Chancellor reduced the rate of VAT from 10 per cent to 8 per cent to "stimulate demand" and to "curb the rise in the cost of living". I would suggest that, in many cases, the effect is, instead, to increase retail profits.

A few weeks ago I visited a branch of Woolworth in London, and saw an electric lawn mower priced at £17.99. The week I visited again with the intention of buying. The price was still at £17.99.

I called over a supervisor and asked whether the price was inclusive of VAT. She said that it was. I then suggested that it should therefore be lowered in accordance with the Chancellor's dictate.

She replied that all prices were quoted inclusive of VAT, and that it was impossible to calculate the net price in order to affect the necessary adjustment. I politely informed her that this was not so, and demonstrated that the net price must have been £16.36, with VAT at 10 per cent equal to £1.63, giving a gross price of £17.99. At 8 per cent, therefore, VAT would be equal to £1.31, giving a gross price of £16.67, a difference of 32p.

The supervisor then replied that the stock had to be sold at the old rate, or the store would be selling at a loss. Again I pointed out that this was false, as any goods sold on or after the date on which the change became effective would pay tax at the new rate. If they continued to charge the old rate, this would result in pure profit to the company. She

then responded by suggesting that I was unreasonable to quibble over 32p.

To her credit, the supervisor did not deny the price, and agreed to sell me the article at £17.99. This was higher than the £17.67 calculated above, but perhaps the company were making use of the confusion to affect a small price increase?

Motivated by this experience, I have examined a number of other stores, and also restaurants, and have found that, in the majority of cases, prices are quoted inclusive of VAT, and that there has been no adjustment in prices since the new rate became effective. (Marks and Spencer, and petrol stations, are notable exceptions).

Yet, overseas, this is normally not the case. I recently visited Italy, where VAT is charged at the rate of 6 per cent, and where all prices, with the exception of very cheap items, where divisibility may be a problem, were quoted net of VAT.

In conclusion, I would like to pose three questions: (1) Are my experiences atypical, or is this a general finding? (2) Should it not be required that prices to be quoted both net, and gross, of VAT, and not simply net? (3) How many companies are implementing price rises disguised as decreases?

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY MELNIKOFF,  
Lecturer in Financial Aspects of Management,  
The Polytechnic of Central London,  
35 Marylebone Road, NW1.

### Investment disincentives

From Mr Per Saugman  
Sir, As a Dane, I should not have made my home and career in this country if I did not have a great admiration for its achievements and attitude to life. It is, therefore, with all the greater sorrow and bewilderment that I observe what can only be described as the current state of our country's economic life and loss of faith in enterprise, fairness and common sense.

An immediate instance of particular concern to me is the policy towards investments overseas, and reward for those who pursue these projects. Some 10 years ago the company that I run, and others in the group, invested in a Danish publishing and book-selling company.

The purchase price was £150,000, and the present value is five times this figure, with a current return to the United Kingdom of 20 per cent on the original investment. This growth would have been impossible if it had been obligatory to remit to the country 50 per cent of the profits after tax, which is the directive that has just been received from the Bank of England to whom naturally I attach no blame, as in this matter they are the servants of the politicians.

An opportunity has now arisen to acquire the controlling interest in another major continental publishing company, which would add substantially to overseas earnings by making feasible a long term co-publishing programme. The profits are £100,000 a year in foreign currency, but the Bank of England requires the remittance to this country of 65 per cent of the profit after tax, which would almost entirely inhibit growth.

Moreover, as a result of Mr Healey's Budget, any fee that I might be paid for the extra responsibility involved in guiding this investment would be taxed to the tune of 75 per cent.

There is good biblical precedent for reaping where one has not sown. There is no more recent condemnation of the folly of eating seed corn and, I venture to suggest, of bleeding white the sower.

Yours sincerely,  
PER SAUGMAN,  
Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd,  
Osney Mead,  
Oxford OX2 0EL.

### BBC's market research

From Mr B. P. Emmett  
Sir, As one who has spent many years in the practice of "market research" in a broad-casting organization, perhaps I could attempt to allay the fears of both Quenian Crows (who is "filled with gloom" July 27) at the prospect of the audience being asked what it wants, and Colin McDonald (August 5) who advocates consulting the public by means of more and better research.

Both are correct in their basic theses, which are not in conflict. On the one hand, it is true that people cannot know whether or not they will like something totally novel until they are given the chance to try it, and on the other, research can demonstrably contribute in a variety of ways to the making of better programmes without hampering the creative process.

Both can take comfort, I hope, from the fact that the BBC has for more than thirty-five years actively and consistently sought its customers' views, only indirectly by means of "the ratings", but directly by obtaining their opinions of the programmes they see and hear, and on many other issues.

### Business appointments

Mr Stanley Roland Harding, an experienced director of the Cornhill Insurance Company, has been appointed chairman of the Cornhill Insurance Company. He succeeds Mr Aubrey Jones, a non-executive director, who is to carry out an economic project in Iran.

Mr D. H. Henderson, fertilizer business director of ICI Agricultural Division, has been appointed ICI's commercial general manager in succession to Mr J. Tedbury, who is retiring. Mr D. S. Hay has been made a director of ICI agricultural division.

Mr C. R. Jennings, director, Formica, has been elected president of the Association of International Manufacturers for 1974-75. Mr J. W. Chambers, of Burnham Industries, has been elected president of the Association of International Manufacturers for 1974-75. Mr J. A. Kempton has been appointed assistant general manager of the British Overseas Insurance Co of Canada.

Sir Eric Eastwood, FRS, has joined the board of Infrared Engineering as a non-executive director.

Recent appointments in the Associated Engineering Group include Mr B. E. Lott as a director of A. E. Edmunds Walker and Mr R. Herrmann as a director of the Glaxo Metal Co.

Mr G. W. Dean III has been made vice-president, international petroleum products, Gulf Oil Trading Co. Mr D. H. Bates replaces Mr Dean as vice-president, Gulf Oil Company, Asia, and GOICO regional manager in Tokyo.

Dr Franz Maier, of the Bayerische Landesbank, has been elected to the board of the Bremer Landesbank, and is to join the board of Leopold Joseph Holdings, following the subscription by their banks for 15 per cent and 10 per cent respectively in the increased share capital of the company.

Mr K. V. Thomason has been made a consultant to the Sears Engineering Group to advise on expansion of its engineering activities and deal with special projects. He succeeds Mr J. R. Hanson, who has retired from the Bentley Group posts with the exception of Bentley Engineering Ltd and Edgar Pickering (Blackpool).

Mr L. B. Whitaker has been appointed deputy managing director of Bentley Engineering Group, and has joined the boards of William Cotton and Bentley Engineering Co.

Mr Max Flindin is to join the board of Conidor. Mr J. Gadeny has become managing director and chief executive of James Bouquet & Sons. He succeeds Mr W. F. Ball, who has retired.

Mr C. J. Hayes, Mr G. F. Clark, Mr J. Rowe and Mr P. Hanson have joined the board of Charles Clifford Industries.

Mr John Allen has resigned the managing directorship of Meta Products (Willeshall) to devote more time to his duties as managing director of Charles Clifford Industries. Mr Christopher Hayes succeeds Mr Allen as managing director of Meta Products (Willeshall) but Mr Allen remains chairman and a director of the company.

Mr F. G. Somerville has been named as finance director of Brooke Bond Liebig. He succeeds Mr J. M. Thomson who will be director responsible for operations in South America and Europe.

Mr S. B. Baldwin has retired as chairman of J. R. Femer (Holdings). He becomes life president and remains a director. Mr Joseph Palmer was elected chairman.

Mr F. G. Earwaker joins the board of Quaker Oats. He succeeds Mr Martin S. Kellogg has been elected a vice-president of General Electric Co of the United States.

## Moving with caution into a new field

Most companies are probably so worried about managing to hold on to what they have got in the coming stormy period that they probably have little time for worrying about growth. Certainly the dead state of the stock exchange, with virtually no takeovers and even fewer new issues, bears eloquent witness to the fact that most businessmen really mean their often expressed pessimism for the months ahead.

When this is tied in with the Government's clear determination to hold down food prices, and the housewife's even clearer intention not to take part in a repetition of last year's soaring spiral of meat prices, the recent takeover by Brooke Bond Liebig of the family butchers, Baxters of Northampton, seems a little quaint.

In fact, however, the move marks a major shift in the whole expansion strategy of the £307m turnover a year group whose interests already spread from tea to prepacked

canned food by way of pickled onions, and which has large scale meat raising interests in South America. BBL is under heavy pressure to expand its United Kingdom interests because of the tax changes which were introduced under the Chancellorship of Mr Barber. These altered the structure of taxation in such a way as to penalize companies which get most of their earnings from overseas.

In response to this, and to the relatively leisurely growth of tea sales, one of its major British sources of revenue, BBL has in recent years gone in for a number of operations designed to build up new interests.

The results have been mixed, to say the least. The two most notable ventures, Welfare Insurance and the food processing plant, have both been sold off. Square Meals, which was designed to break into the very fast growing freezer food market where

food is sold in large packs turned out to be, in the words of Sir Humphrey Frisvold, BBL's chairman "a horror story".

It ended up by being sold to Tesco, who then closed it down at a heavy loss. Welfare Insurance turned out to be less of a problem, but it fairly soon became clear that if it was successful it would fit in badly with what is basically a food company, and if it was not successful, the least said is the better. So that too had to go, this time to Edward Bates.

The lessons of these two experiences have been clearly weighed heavily on the company's mind. Looking about for some new area of expansion, Baxters' two great attractions, and the two factors which will in all probability be decisive in shaping further moves are that it is already well established and that it fits in neatly with the company's existing activities.

Baxter has 400 butchers shops in the Midlands and south of England. This means that it will now be totally vertically integrated, at least as far as its own business is concerned, all the way from the bull in South America to the customer in England. This is potentially a tricky point, since one of the reasons given for selling off Square Meals was that the company's retail interests might have led BBL into a conflict of interest with retailers who are the main customers for the food manufacturing side.

However, Sir Humphrey sees no real problem in this. Great care has been taken to stress that BBL's grocery lines will not be stocked at Baxters' meat departments, and that the two shops traditional butchers establishments, instead of making them mini-supermarkets is reinforced by market research which suggests that housewives are extremely resistant to buying their meat anywhere other than a butcher's store. Fresh meat is one area where the supermarket share of the market seems likely to be held

down to a fairly small figure. The merger is not likely to lead to any closure of the slaughterhouses of the new group, though it will probably put off the need for new investment.

One other area where the new combined operation has big hopes is in the commercial catering side. BBL has already, major suppliers to this business, and the growing expectation of many workers that they will get a decent meal at work is expected to boost this side of the business substantially.

But in this, as in other aspects of the takeover, the company clearly intends to proceed with some caution. Great care is being taken not to force through any major changes in the Baxter management or operations. After all, when you have just an £10.9m to get an established business, the last thing you want to do is rip it apart and start again.

David Blake

## Leyland's last piecework outpost

British Leyland's long and difficult battle to reform its wages structure now appears to be moving into its final stage. The last big effort centres on the 8,500-strong labour force at the corporation's five bus and truck factories in Lancashire, where Lord Stokes began his career in the motor industry as an apprentice in the 1930s.

There is irony in the fact that these plants at Leyland and Chorley which, until recently enjoyed a unique record for trouble-free labour relations, should have become the final outpost of shop-floor resistance to innovations which have been accepted after a struggle in militant car assembly centres like Cowley and Longbridge.

When Mr Pat Lowry, with a reputation as one of the outstanding talents in the labour relations field, was persuaded by Lord Stokes to leave the Engineering Employers Association in the late 1960s to become BLMC's director of industrial relations, he walked into a jungle of wage bargaining systems. These were largely based on the long-standing piecework and rate-fixing processes.

Mr Lowry made reform of wages structure throughout the corporation and termination of piecework the first objective of his new labour relations strategy.

In just over four years, from the starting point of fierce action resistance to change, and later "imported" from the hostility engendered by the Industrial Relations Act and the various stages of incomes policy, the wage reforms were carried through in all the car plants.

Workers in the huge Austin Morris complexes, in Triumph, Jaguar, Rover and elsewhere are all now operating under graded wage structures that give stan-

dard pay rates, with most getting about £50 for a 40-hour week. Mr Lowry's strategy has linked these changes to other innovations such as guaranteed lay-off pay agreements and a special procedure for settling disputes.

In the light of experience, most trade union and shop-floor leaders are now persuaded that the changes were necessary. Although a great many labour relations problems remain, and British Leyland has yet to find the answers to matching productivity with its new earnings levels, they no longer stem from the eternal piecemeal bickering over price-fixing on the shop floors.

Only in the Lancashire factories does the piecework system still survive and even there shop-floor negotiators have come round to the point where there is an agreement in principle that a change is necessary.

To a large extent, British Leyland has been the victim of circumstances over its negotiations in the Lancashire factories. But it has also had to contend with a much more effective and astute shop-floor leadership that developed in the past few years with the emergence of men like Mr Len Brindle, the conveyor for the five plants.

The initial attempt by the management to push through wage reforms ran aground on the Conservative Government's incomes policy. Within the restraints imposed, British Leyland could not meet the price being demanded by the shop floor for making the change.

R. W. Shakespeare

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

# Triumph: questions for the financial sector



Mr G. T. Whyte, chief executive of Triumph Investment Trust, examining the group's activities.

## Wall Street Gloom lives on after Mr Nixon

By contrast with the euphoria in Washington and in most parts of the United States as Mr Gerald Ford became President on Friday, Wall Street closed in a sombre mood. The view there is that it will take a good deal more than simply a transfer of presidential power to bring about a revival in the securities markets.

Mr Nixon's era may well be remembered in New York City as the time the Dow Jones average fell more than 20 per cent and investors ran away from the markets in droves. The latest edition of *Business Week* magazine comments that "the securities industry today is in the worst financial straits it has seen since the early 1930s". A real crisis, largely because small investors have become so disenchanted that they have withdrawn almost completely from the markets. Brokers know well that it may take years to get them back. The result, quite simply, is heavy unemployment and a general loss of confidence in the United States stockbrokerage business.

Taken together, Wall Street brokers have had losses of more than \$500 m so far this year. The outlook is gloomy, although there is a brighter moment when there is a new man at the White House.

For the markets, however, the transition from Mr Nixon to Mr Ford meant no more than just a 30-point gain on the Dow.

One might have expected a bigger surge in share prices last week, but new wholesale price figures spoil all the fun, knocking a lot of sense into people in demonstrating that inflation's pace here is, if anything, accelerating and it is inflation that is Wall Street's biggest problem.

Inflation is driving up overhead costs at brokerage houses, it is turning investors away from regular stocks and shares into treasury notes and bank holding company floating-rate notes and it is making a virtual mockery of corporate profit figures.

This latter is particularly disturbing because investors just do not know how to really make sense of balance-sheets anymore.

The fact is that, while profits of many companies reached new levels in the first half of this year, the real advances were in many cases almost negligible after adjusting for the effects of inflation on the stated values of assets and inventories. Many banks, for example, are still valuing securities they hold at cost when the real value is well below.

To add to all the trouble there is the continuing talk of a crisis throughout the country's financial system. Many banks are known to be over-extended and many are being hit by the "Fed's" tough policies.

The Herstatt and Franklin troubles have hardly helped. All this is making investors deeply worried.

On top of all its other

worries, Wall Street is troubled by the prospect of increased competition with the abolition of fixed commission charges scheduled for next spring. For the present the Street can only wait and see.

## ...but long-term appeal remains

Fund managers in London and (importantly) since much investment trust activity centres on Scotland) in Edinburgh are by no means convinced that the end of the Nixon presidency signals an early end to the bear market on Wall Street. Some stockbrokers and bankers on this side of the Atlantic are talking in terms of a real revival on Wall Street around 1976—perhaps later.

Nor for that matter, however, are they looking for a sustained improvement in any of the world equity markets before then. If there is any consensus view it seems to be that Wall Street is the safest repository for equity funds—provided investors are prepared to bide their time for a revival.

Indeed, this view is reflected pretty closely in the recent performance of United States-oriented investment trusts relative to the discounts for United European or Far East bias. Investment trust prices have strengthened generally in the past two weeks, but the United States-oriented ones have maintained their relative premium. Thus trusts such as American Trust, British Assets, Caledonian and Clydesdale, for example—all with a United States bias—are selling on a discount to asset values of 19, 17, 23 and 21 per cent respectively while the discounts for United European or Far East bias trusts are of the order of 26 or 27 per cent.

The current historic high levels for the \$ premium are not viewed by most investment managers as a major inhibiting factor so far as Wall Street investment is concerned. Many of them have loan facilities at their disposal, anyway, if they wish to take them up. The real constraint, as one City investment banker put it last week, is a simple lack of investment funds as the money supply tightens and as investors realize equity assets to meet current or future liabilities.

It is axiomatic that stock markets do not tend to go up when the money supply is tightening which, of course, is happening in the United States now as the Administration attempts to come to grips with inflation. And hopes that inflation may be coming under control in America were punctured last week by the rise in the wholesale price index and its threatened effect on the retail index.

Brokers and fund managers here are convinced, however, that the capital goods sector on Wall Street provides some excellent long-term buying opportunities. "Basic America" situations such as steel, aluminium and paper, currently selling on p/e's of between 2 and 5 will ride out the American recession—severe though much City opinion still expects that to be—and should go back to multiples of 10 or more in three to five years time.

On the other hand, the consumer stocks are certainly not favourites for leading a Wall Street revival this time as they were in 1970. They probably have yet to feel the full impact of deflation and rising unemployment.

In essence the United Kingdom view seems to be that Wall Street will not recover materially until the threat of an international monetary crisis is past. But once there is any real assurance on this score, the Dow Jones average will take off first and go far and fast, helped, quite possibly, by an influx of Arab investment funds currently waiting in the wings.

Christopher Wilkins looks at the problems facing consortia banks

# Conducting operations on a much more modest scale

It would have been a minor miracle if the turmoil besetting the world's financial institutions had wholly passed by the consortia banks. As it is, one of the fastest growing banking phenomena of the late 1960s and early 1970s appears to be running to an abrupt halt.

Whether the momentum can ever be fully regained is seriously open to question. Although there can be little doubt that short-term uncertainties will be ridden out by the consortia banks, they have found themselves thrust into a period of fundamental reassessment from which they are unlikely to emerge without some tarnishing of the growth image. In the longer term, it could mean they will have to learn to live with a much more modest scale of operation.

The consortium concept has always had its enemies but until now their objections have been brushed aside by the banks' heady pace of growth. What ever doubts might have been aired were swamped by the multitude of advantages to which its proponents could point.

Some were drawn to the consortium concept as offering a route into merchant banking, or into a variety of specializations. Others looked to the spin-offs which could be derived from the banks' own resources as a result of closer association with a group of diverse banks having a wide geographical spread.

The explosion of the Euro-currency markets during the past five years was the corner-stone of their growth. Consortium banks were uniquely cut out to cope with the huge scale of lending in this market by drawing together under one umbrella the substantial combined resources of several parents. Moreover, they provided a centre for smaller banks into the market, while avoiding the necessity for expensive branch operations.

Before 1970 there was barely a handful of consortia banks in existence. Today there are around 50, mostly based in London, and by last September their combined assets in the Eurocurrency

market alone amounted to £4,058m or 8 per cent of the total London market.

By the same token that they were so deeply involved in the Eurocurrency market they were bound to suffer to some extent from the fluctuations in its fortunes. Some, like Western American Bank and Orion, incurred heavy losses from trading in Eurobonds, for instance, and have progressively reduced their dealing operations.

Difficulties of that sort, though, have been dwarfed by the developments of the past three months associated with growing disenchantment with medium term Eurocurrency lending.

The problems here are well enough known. The collapse of Franklin National Bank and Herstatt Bank forced depositors to take a closer look at the banks with whom they were placing their funds. Questions were asked about who would assume responsibility for a Eurobank which ran into trouble.

In search of greater security, depositors started to recycle funds away from smaller banks into bigger ones or took their money out of the market altogether. The banks in turn took a closer look at those with whom they dealt. In many cases what they saw prompted them to cut back sharply on the credit they had previously extended.

The consortia banks have fallen under special scrutiny and many of them have suffered badly from the cutting back of lines. Depositors were less than certain whether the consortium banks were really cut out to cope with the huge scale of lending in this market by drawing together under one umbrella the substantial combined resources of several parents. Moreover, they provided a centre for smaller banks into the market, while avoiding the necessity for expensive branch operations.

Before 1970 there was barely a handful of consortia banks in existence. Today there are around 50, mostly based in London, and by last September their combined assets in the Eurocurrency

Capital and deposits of leading consortia banks at their most recent balance sheet dates.

	Capital	Deposits	Capital as % of deposits
Midland and International Banks	£26.1m	£581m	4.6
Western American Bank	£27.7m	£517m	5.4
International Commercial Bank	£34.5m	£303m	9.4
Rothschild Intercontinental Bank	£19.2m	£319m	6
London Multinational Bank	£10.8m	£203m	5.3
Oman	£4.9m	£129m	3.8
Commercial Banks Natwest	£798m	£10,668m	7.5
J. P. Morgan	\$957m	\$12,904m	7.4

the ultimate crisis arose. Could it be taken for granted that they would come to the rescue saddling their own balance sheet with heavy additional commitments in an area where many were already beginning to feel uncomfortably over-committed already?

With uncertainties of this sort to feed upon it was but a short step to reviewing some of the assumptions about consortium bank operational style which had hitherto been accepted almost without question.

Chief among these assumptions was that certain commercial banking criteria were not wholly applicable to consortia banks. This, it was argued, was because the combined resources of the parent banks enabled new capital to be injected into the consortium more easily than could be the case with the parents themselves.

Consequently, it was felt, the consortia banks could afford to operate on capital to deposit ratios that were considerably more liberal than those permissible to the parents individually. It is apparent from the accompanying chart that many consortia banks—although by no means all—have taken advantage of this assumption to maintain lower ratios than the 8 per cent or so which most commercial banks would regard as a desirable level. Stripping out the loan stock element of capital leaves an even more marked divergence.

In good times there has been no reason to question these assumptions. In more difficult

times the flaws are not hard to find. First, it becomes debatable how far parent banks still wish to go on making regular cash injections at a time when disillusion with the Eurocurrency markets combines with some unhappiness about the quality of some of the loan commitments taken on during the past two years by their largely autonomous offspring.

Second, it becomes material to ask what would happen to the balance sheets of the parent banks if the assets and liabilities of the consortia banks were divided up pro rata between them.

The answer, clearly, is that the relatively low capital/deposit ratios of the consortia banks could pull down the overall ratios of the parents at the time when many of them are largely autonomous offspring.

So far no consortium bank has produced a trading statement to indicate how it has responded to the changes of the past three months. But the recent reports from United International Bank and Midland and International Banks suggested that both were moving in the direction of greater balance sheet conservatism. By the year end it seems probable that most others will be showing a reduction in both the size of their deposits and their loan portfolios.

However, even where banks are prepared to assume—as many are—that the low ratios are no cause for worry, there remains an equally fundamental ground for concern. Some consortia banks, it is clear, have left themselves more exposed to liquidity difficulties in the event of deposit withdrawals than other banks operating in the Eurocurrency market.

Liquidity difficulties only arise when a bank finds itself unable to renew roll-over deposits to meet its loan commitments. If the maturities of loans and deposits are broadly matched and there is a reasonable cash margin, it matters little if short-term deposits are not renewed since the commitments run down simultaneously.

But Bank of England statistics for last September, the most recent available, reveal that 85 per cent of London consortium bank deposits were placed for six months periods or less and only 61 per cent of their loans were due to mature in under six months. For the Eurocurrency market as a whole, liabilities and assets were much more closely matched at 85 per cent and 79 per cent respectively.

None of this means that crises are imminent. It seems improbable that parent banks will shrug off their responsibilities, injections of new capital are still being made and many of the consortia banks entered the present year with strong cash and near cash holdings anyway.

There are, in addition, various other options open to consortia banks in difficulty. Selling the participations in syndicated loans is one possibility, although it is hard to see how this could be done without loss at the moment. Diverting resources away from other areas is another.

In the longer term, though, the disillusion with which some parents are now viewing the operations of their consortia banks suggests that, once the period of immediate retrenchment is over, the growth emphasis is likely to be directed progressively away from the Euromarkets.

# American car industry gambles to overcome crisis

Initially hit hard by the oil crisis the United States car industry has been suffering from the high levels of inflation and interest rates and it may be struck again, before the end of the year by an economic recession.

The industry, to put it mildly, has been reeling from blows to the point where sales have fallen to their lowest since 1974 net earnings of General Motors down to \$426m (about £177.5m) from \$1,614m in the same 1973 period. Ford's earnings for these periods are down to \$291.4m from \$754.9m, while Chrysler's net profit is down to \$29.4m from \$198.4m.

The way sales are going it seems unlikely that total new sales in America this year will exceed 9.5 million units. Industry leaders believe that such really depends on just how willing consumers will be to pay the prevailing higher prices for cars.

Why car sales slumped is now history, with most of the blame rightly placed on oil prices and money blime due to inflation. But the car producers, though they do not admit it, are now taking what amounts to a big gamble.

Partly to offset huge cost rises they have made rises on average of around \$500 on 1974 models and the indications from the industry are that rises of similar proportions—roughly 8 per cent to 10 per cent of retail prices—will be made on the 1975 models due out shortly.

Manufacturers frankly doubt if in this high

United States Car Production First 7 Months

	1974	1973
General Motors	2,056,027	3,379,380
Ford	1,346,709	1,589,767
Chrysler	796,381	1,014,436
American	224,100	201,881
Others	2,870	3,867
Total	4,426,087	6,189,231

inflation atmosphere the increased prices will weaken demand, but they could be making a serious error in their desperate effort to boost profit margins.

The suggestion that all the price rises are to meet increased costs just does not convince, despite the fact that Ford stated not long ago that "labour and material cost increases in the six months since November 1, 1973, have exceeded by nearly 100 per cent increases projected by the company late last year."

General Motors said in its second quarter report that costs of production so far this year have risen by an average of \$225, broken down as rises of \$70 in personnel costs, \$50 for steel, \$20 for other basic materials, \$50 for components and \$35 for freight and other items. The price rises by all manufacturers have much more than offset such cost rises.

General Motors last year had a net profit margin of about 6.7 per cent which was higher than the margins maintained by its rivals. The industry is now making a tremendous effort to get back to raise

margins, partly, say industry executives, because reorganization plans are going to demand sharp rises in investment spending. The crisis has forced Ford to spend about \$250m this year on converting production facilities to small car output for the north American market.

Nor only do the Detroit car makers reckon that consumers will pay the higher prices, but they even believe that consumers will still back away from foreign made cars. The United States manufacturers are now offering more small and compact built cars than ever before, which does damage the strong position that foreign manufacturers, especially the West Germans and Japanese, have long held here.

Prices of new cars tend to have a greater impact on the sort of car people buy here than does fuel economy. It might have been thought that the foreign manufacturers would have enjoyed a boom these last months because of the greater fuel economy of their products over those coming from Detroit. The fact is that through devaluations of the dollar and high foreign inflation many foreign small cars have virtually priced themselves out of the market.

Last year imported car sales reached a record of 1,750,000 units, while this year the total may not even reach 1,300,000. In the first six months of this year, because of high prices, foreign car sales have fallen by 24 per cent, with sales of such big foreign companies here as Volkswagen, Datsun and

Toyota down respectively by 33 per cent, 29 per cent and 26 per cent.

Foreign manufacturers depend greatly on the American market and are desperate to get back into a strong position. The sharp price rises by United States manufacturers could just give the foreign producers the chance that they so badly need and it would seem that Detroit is not fully appreciating this fact.

The big company leaders in Detroit are forecasting that new car sales here next year will be around 10,500,000 units, but they may well be disappointed. The new high cost of new cars plus the high cost of fuel may make Americans more reticent to trade in their cars.

Furthermore, the high fuel costs and the new 55 miles per hour speed limits may reduce travelling and thus reduce the wear on cars leading to a slower pace of model changes by purchasers.

In contrast to the three giants, plucky American Motors has finally proved that there is no monopoly on wisdom in the car business. This company has long been the supporter of small cars, sometimes at its cost, but it was certainly prepared, like none of the others, for the crisis that came. Furthermore, with fairly good products, it can now hope that the many first time buyers of its cars will stick with the company and that it finally has a chance of really expanding.

Frank Vogl

# Business Diary in Europe: Development in Paris

at Giscard d'Estaing's international centre on the old Les Invalides and ordering the of it over to become a "green lung" for Paris has badly jolted the developers. Is Paris to cease to be a prime "site"?

The lush years from the when a Paris regional boom started in which developers have played as big a role as the themselves, the Elvsee's undoubtedly marks a point.

When the French construction industry is caught general pessimism due autumn's threatening climate in France. It is in the national statistics reports in a of investors already g the property field g credit restrictions e threat of new tax

words of M Jacques the Prime Minister, who to "interpret" the al decision protest illing: "We have no in- of letting Paris sink be a international commere." The centre could place in some new town Paris, he added non-

new priorities were stated: "We are in the e of a Paris very drama- of green space are not decided it is not



M. Jacques Chirac: not good designs.

industry has gone into a crouch with the dispensaries. In Holland, as in most Continental countries, dispensaries are not part of a chemist's store but are an entirely separate business. The pharmaceutical industry has the chemists under control in a general vertical price agreement, but the dispensaries have now decided unilaterally to raise their prices so that they take the maximum profit allowed, 18 per cent, on all factory-made medicines.

The pharmaceutical industry, frequently accused of charging too much for its products, and with its profits margins tightly controlled by the Government, is angry with the pharmacists for promoting what could mean a 5 per cent rise in the price

of medicines to the customer. Pharmacists are not a branch of small shopkeepers which is thought to be threatened by immediate poverty. If the industry must keep its prices down, then the retail trade must play the anti-inflation game as well, the industry's council has written in a letter of protest to the minister of economic affairs, Rudolf Lubbers.

While the pharmacists are accused of growing fat on the proceeds from private patients, the council for the health insurance funds in The Netherlands has warned Dutch doctors who have their own dispensary, that they can expect an accountant on the doorstep.

The insurance companies suspect that they are being charged for factory-made medicines, while what the patient actually gets is a less than perfectly similar, home-made version. The companies have threatened to demand to see the invoices for supplies of medicines to doctors before paying their bills, and to drag those who have offended before a medical tribunal.

## Bed brass

One of the first questions which Alfred Parnes, the director of overseas operations for Strand, the J. Lyons hotel company, had to answer when his company finally acquired the Hotel Commodore in the Boulevard Haussmann in Paris was how to dispose of several hundred brass bedsteads.

Considered very chic in London's Chelsea set, there was some uncertainty as to how they would be received in Parisian circles. In the end Mr Parnes decided to maintain the traditional French style of the 160-room Commodore and make as few changes as possible. Manager and staff after the takeover still remain as they were under family ownership.

## Balmain coup

For some time now the power and influence of the world of haute couture has been under pressure from the "ready to wear" end of the rag trade. Recognizing the shift in emphasis the Paris fashion houses have been moving increasingly into areas which a few years ago would have seemed unthinkable. The latest is the French fashion house of Pierre Balmain which has just signed up with the London subsidiary of Haw Par Brothers International, the Singapore trading house.

Under the terms of the agreement—regarded by many in the trade as a major coup in the world of high fashion—Balmain's range of ready to wear clothes will be marketed in Britain for the first time next year.

The deal more significantly marks another important step in the aspirations of Hongkong's textile industry to establish itself as a producer of quality garments and to rid itself of the image of being a producer of cheap garments.

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Annual Meeting, 5th September, 1974.



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DENTAL CONSULTANT, W.1. is seeking a receptionist/chairstide assistant for his practice. Some secretarial skills needed but chairside experience not essential as he would sacrifice this in order to find an assistant with maturity, tact and humour. Excellent working conditions and high salary for the right person.

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Please telephone Denise O'Donoghue  
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required by Tormead School in September for boarding house of 25 girls aged 12-18. Must be available for widowed lady. APPLY HEADMISTRESS.  
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Great opening for responsible girl with some typing and social skills. Excellent opportunity for a career in P.R. and able to drive a car. Charming office of national society involved with animals where, after 12 hours a week, you will be able to gain valuable experience in public relations, promotion to P.R. officer, and a salary of £2,000 plus car. 1000 Oxford Street, W.1. 629 4601.

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needs a friendly  
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IF YOU LIKE MEETING people and  
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SKI SUPERTRAVEL are looking for  
a Clerk/Clerk between the ages of  
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Tel: 01-628 3232, extn. 370.

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Salary in excess of £2,000 plus threshold.

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First-class opportunity for efficient young secretary, over 25, to take over organisation of busy senior executive, control of office administration, screening of calls, etc. 25/31 Moorgate, London, W.1.

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